

SEARCHING FOR THE HIGGS BOSON

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University of Colorado, Boulder

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- Collider searches for the Higgs
 - Is it the SM Higgs boson?
 - SUSY & other BSM Higgs sectors

Some recommended references

The Anatomy of electro-weak symmetry breaking. I/II: [SM & MSSM]
Abdelhak Djouadi, hep-ph/0503172 and 0503173.

QCD effects in Higgs physics, [Higgs formulae]
Michael Spira, Fortsch.Phys.46:203-284,1998, hep-ph/9705337.

Higgs statistics for pedestrians, [what happened at LEP]
Eilam Gross & Amit Klier, hep-ex/0211058.

CMS TDR (Technical Design Report), Higgs chapter,
Due out June 20, 2006.

Higgs boson searches at hadron colliders,
Volker Buscher & Karl Jakobs, Int.J.Mod.Phys.A20:2523-2602,2005,
hep-ph/0504099.

Prospects for the search for a standard model Higgs boson in
ATLAS using vector boson fusion,
S. Asai et al., Eur.Phys.J.C32S2:19-54,2004, hep-ph/0402254.

SM Higgs Reminder (Sally Dawson's lectures)

The SM Higgs sector is the simplest, most economical weakly-coupled explanation for EWSB and fermion mass generation.

- unitarizes $VV \rightarrow VV$ scattering,
- unitarizes $f\bar{f} \rightarrow VV$ scattering
- gives masses to W , Z , and fermions in a gauge-invariant, renormalizeable way

But it does come with some caveats:

- ignores the flavor problem
- no explanation of neutrino masses
- radiative stability problem

That said, SM Higgs is a suitable starting point for *phenomenology*:

- the study of physical phenomena associated with a theory
- the connection between theory and experiment

Purpose of these lectures:

1. show how to look for a Higgs candidate at colliders
2. show how to study a Higgs candidate - confirm a theory
3. explain some Higgs sectors beyond the SM

The SM Higgs $SU(2)_L$ doublet has several parameters:

- 1 “gauge” parameter, v , measured via M_W , G_F , etc.
- 9 Yukawa couplings (fermion mass parameters; ignore ν 's)
- 1 free parameter, M_H

To study these parameters, must produce Higgs bosons at colliders:

LEP, Tevatron, LHC, SLHC, ILC, CLIC, VLHC, ...

LEP already ran

Tevatron is running

LHC will run in ~ 1 year

what comes next depends on what we find

So how is the SM Higgs boson produced in collision?

→ recall the Higgs couples to SM particles $\propto m$

LEP HIGGS SEARCHES

(a brief history)

$M_H \gtrsim 3 \text{ GeV}$ from hadron decays before LEP (ca. 1990)

What about $e^+e^- \rightarrow H$ direct production?

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HA! Would take about 4 years to see 1 event at LEP-II

(m_e is just far too small to couple usefully)

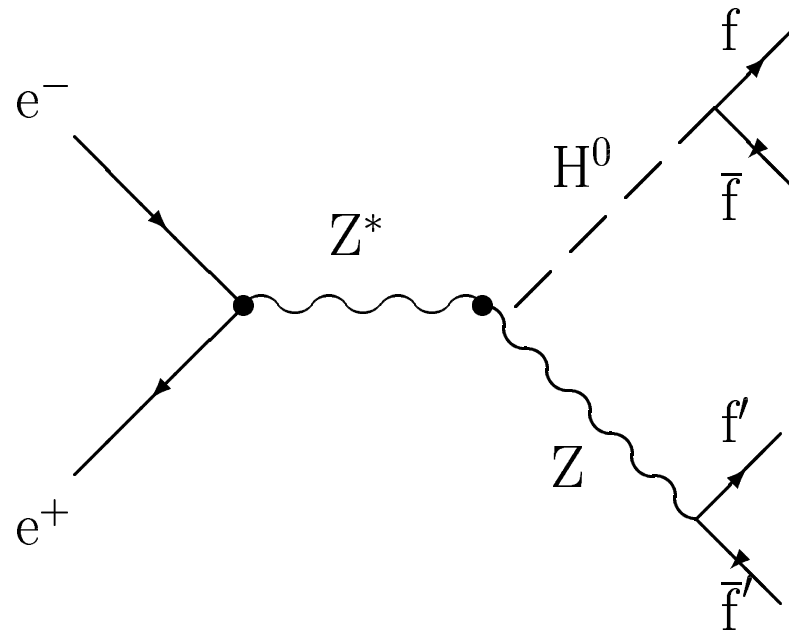
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How it's really produced: mostly $e^+e^- \rightarrow Z^* \rightarrow ZH$

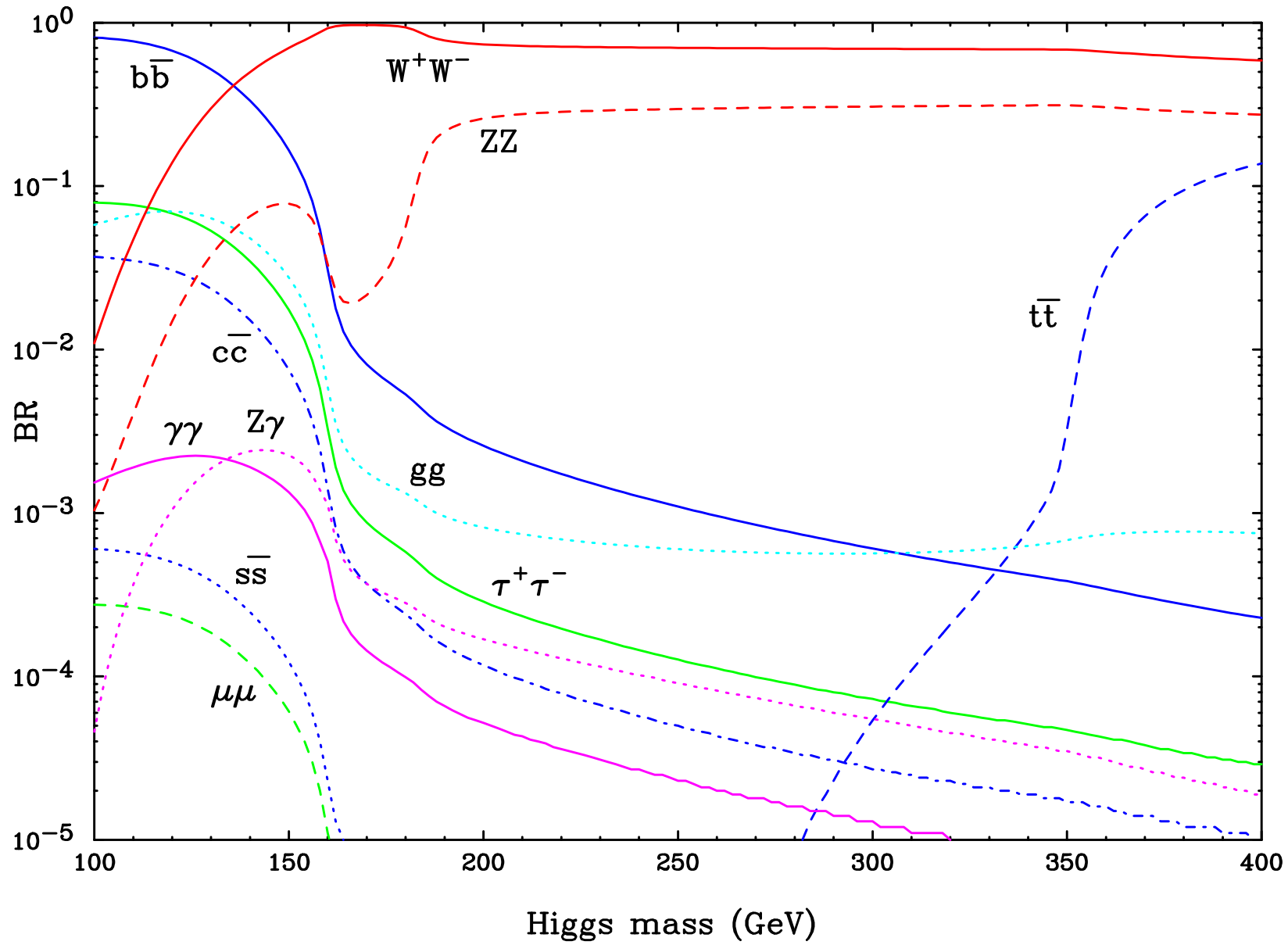


(assume here $M_H \lesssim 150 \text{ GeV}$ or so, so $H \rightarrow f\bar{f}$ dominates)

▷ at an e^+e^- collider, can use nearly all Z decays

► but then how does the Higgs decay?

H preferentially decays to the heaviest SM pair kinematically allowed



► at low M_H , this is mostly $b\bar{b}$ and $\tau^+\tau^-$

A bit on Higgs partial widths...

1. decays to fermions:

$$\boxed{\Gamma_{f\bar{f}} = \frac{N_c G_F m_f^2 M_H}{4\sqrt{2}\pi} \beta^3} \quad \text{w/} \quad \beta = \sqrt{1 - \frac{4m_f^2}{M_H^2}}$$

- use $m_f(M_H)$ for quarks
- QCD corrections for $\Gamma_{q\bar{q}}$ significant
- notice: *linear* in M_H
- one factor β from matrix element, two factors from phase space

2. decays to gauge bosons

$$\boxed{\Gamma_{VV} = \frac{G_F M_H^3}{8\sqrt{2}\pi} \delta_V \beta \left(1 - x_W + \frac{3}{4} x_W^2 \right)} \quad \text{w/} \quad \begin{cases} \delta_{W,Z} = 2, 1 \\ \beta = \sqrt{1 - x_W} \\ x_W = \frac{4M_W^2}{M_H^2} \end{cases}$$

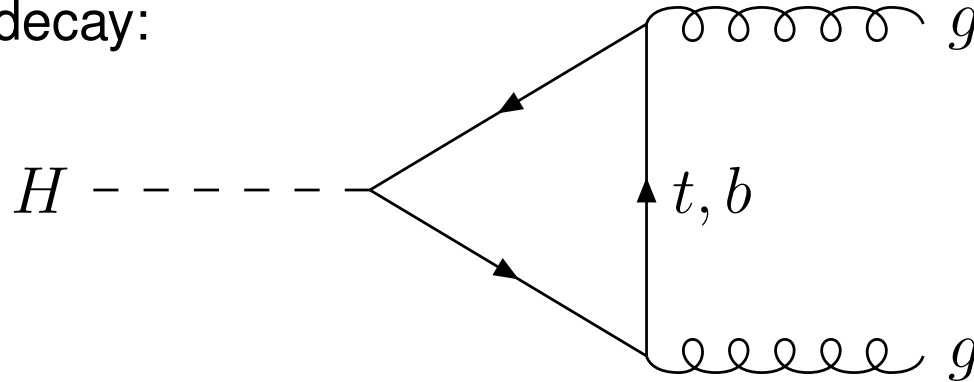
- notice: *cubic* in M_H
- one factor β from phase space, other part from matrix element

► partial widths to fermions & bosons very different; bosons “win”

A bit on Higgs partial widths...

3. decays to gluons: but gluons are massless!

Loop-induced decay:



$$\Gamma_{gg} = \frac{\alpha_s^2 G_F M_H^3}{16\sqrt{2}\pi^3} \left| \sum_i \tau_i \left[1 + (1 - \tau_i) f(\tau_i) \right] \right|^2$$

$$\text{w/ } \tau_i = \frac{4m_f^2}{M_H^2} \text{ and } f(\tau) = \begin{cases} \left[\sin^{-1} \sqrt{1/\tau} \right]^2 & \tau \geq 1 \\ -\frac{1}{4} \left[\ln \frac{1+\sqrt{1-\tau}}{1-\sqrt{1-\tau}} - i\pi \right]^2 & \tau < 1 \end{cases}$$

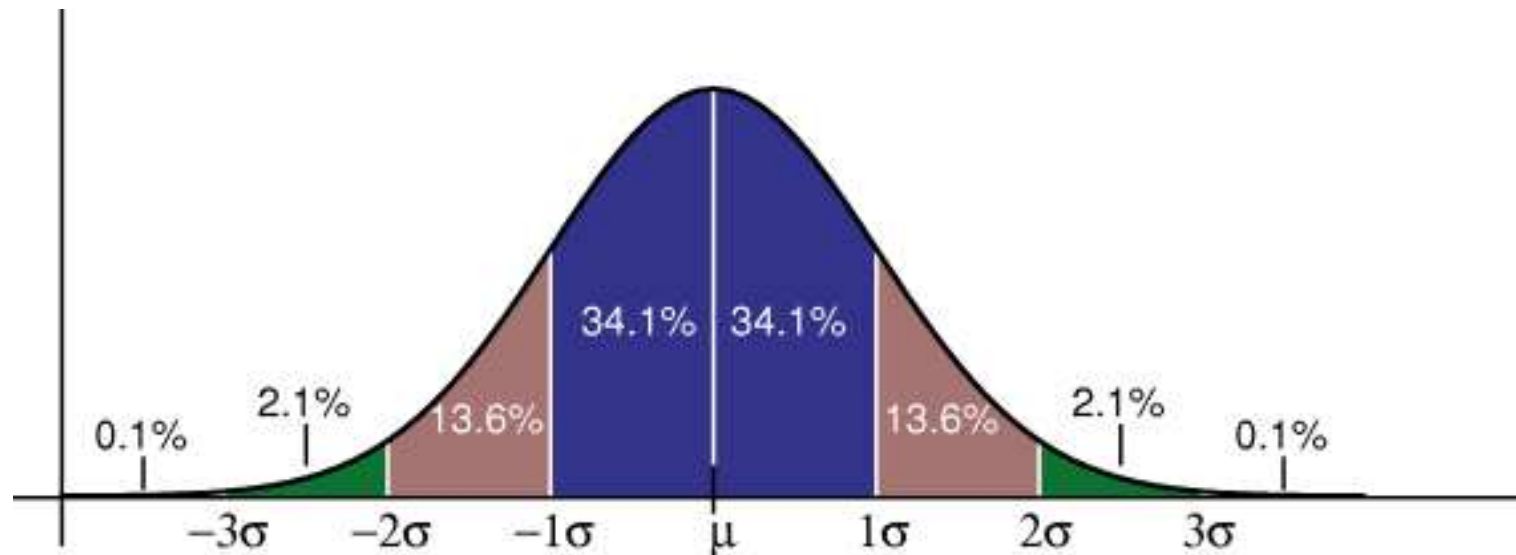
- use $m_f(M_H)$ for quarks; t completely dominates
- QCD corrections significant
- *cubic* in M_H
- similar form for $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$, but W loop included

A brief word on statistics...

In any experiment, event counts are quantum rolls of the dice - they follow a Gaussian distribution about the true mean.

$$f(x; \mu, \sigma) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{(x - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

The statistical uncertainty in the rate then goes as \sqrt{N} , the # of events. This is “1 sigma” of uncertainty: 68.2% of the experiments we conduct will obtain N within $\sigma \approx \pm\sqrt{N}$ about $\mu = N_{\text{true}}$.



To discover a signal above some known background, we require 5σ : a 0.00006% chance that the signal is only a statistical fluctuation.

LEP-II searched in multiple channels:

$$b\bar{b}jj, b\bar{b}\ell^+\ell^-, b\bar{b}\nu\bar{\nu}, \tau^+\tau^-jj, jjjj, \dots$$

Z branching ratios:

$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow \ell^+\ell^- & 3.3\% \text{ (each of } e, \mu, \tau) \\ \rightarrow b\bar{b} & 15\% \\ \rightarrow \nu\bar{\nu} & 20\% \text{ (invisible)} \\ \rightarrow jj & 55\% \text{ (everything else)} \end{aligned}$$

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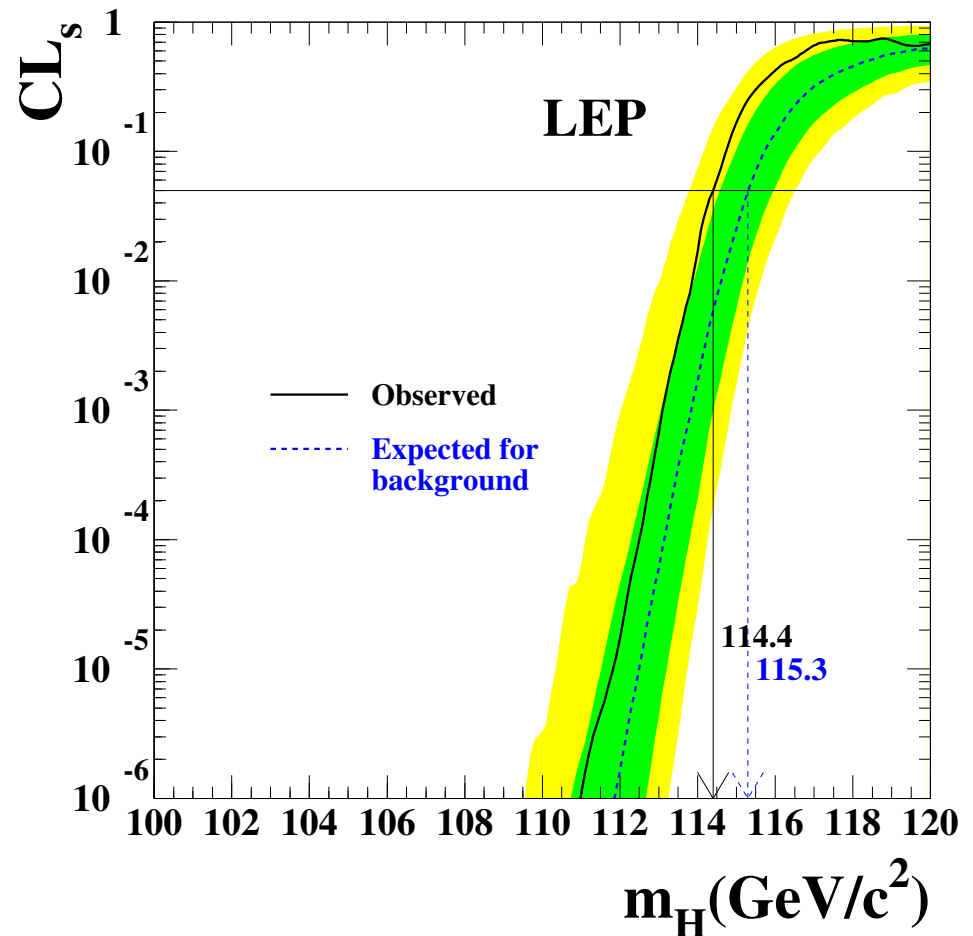
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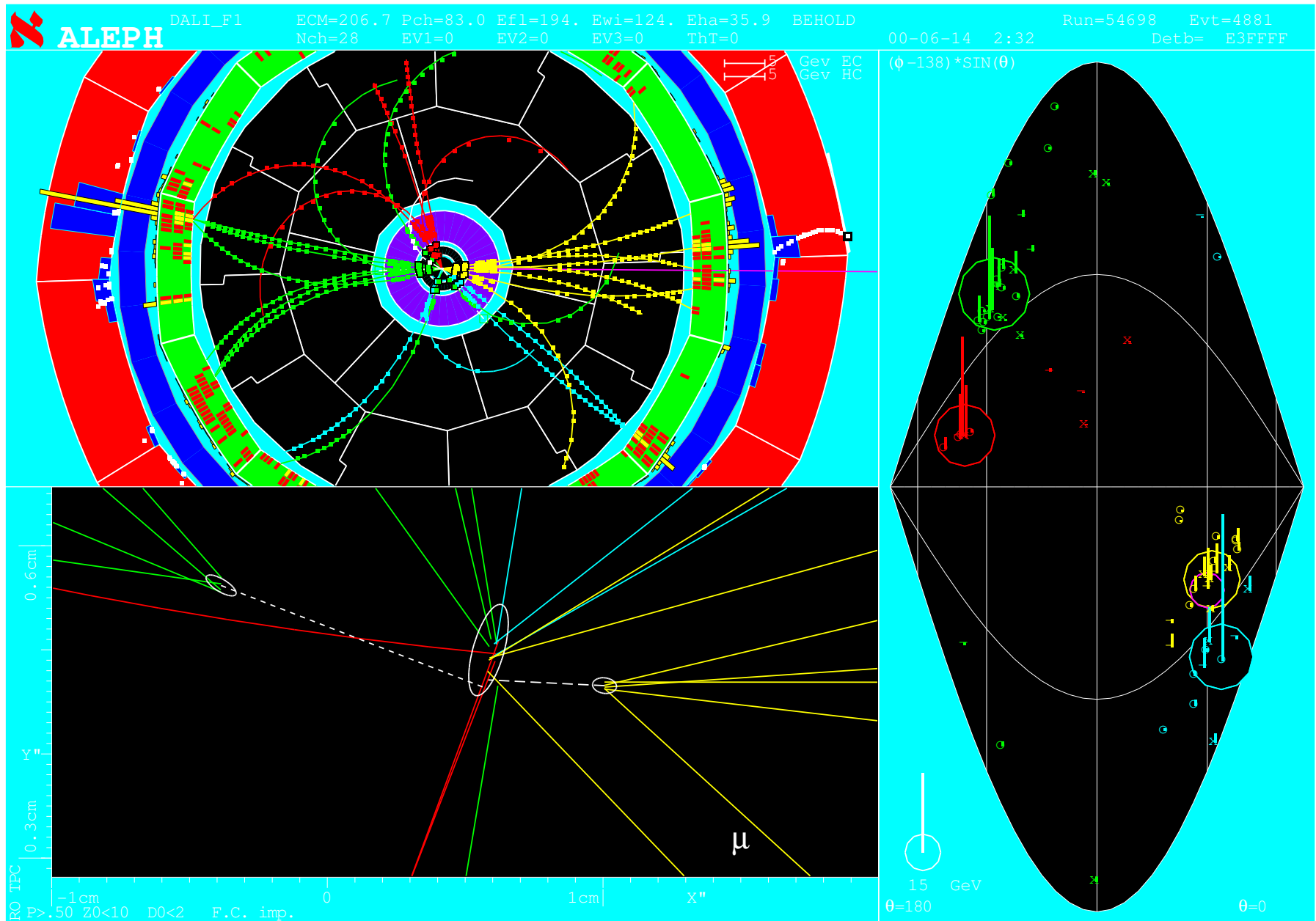
- $\rightarrow \ell^+\ell^-$ 3.3% (each of e, μ, τ)
- $\rightarrow b\bar{b}$ 15%
- $\rightarrow \nu\bar{\nu}$ 20% (invisible)
- $\rightarrow jj$ 55% (everything else)

And saw nothing up to the
machine kinematic limit ...

...using a 2σ statistical limit.



Or did it? Interesting N event: $Z \rightarrow q\bar{q}, h \rightarrow b\bar{b}$



Made on 29-Aug-2000 17:06:54 by DREVERMANN with DALL_F1.
 Filename: DC054698_004881_000829_1706.PS_H_CAND

Do *you* play the “1 event” game?

TEVATRON HIGGS SEARCHES

(ongoing)

Higgs searches are much tougher at a hadron collider!

Reason: signal is EW (small), but backgrounds are QCD (large).

A heavy top quark turns out to be a real pain...

“Today’s edge-of-your-seat search is tomorrow’s exciting discovery is next week’s annoying background.”

$p\bar{p}$ collisions are different from e^+e^- , so ask again:

► how do we produce the Higgs at a hadron collider?

Higgs searches are much tougher at a hadron collider!

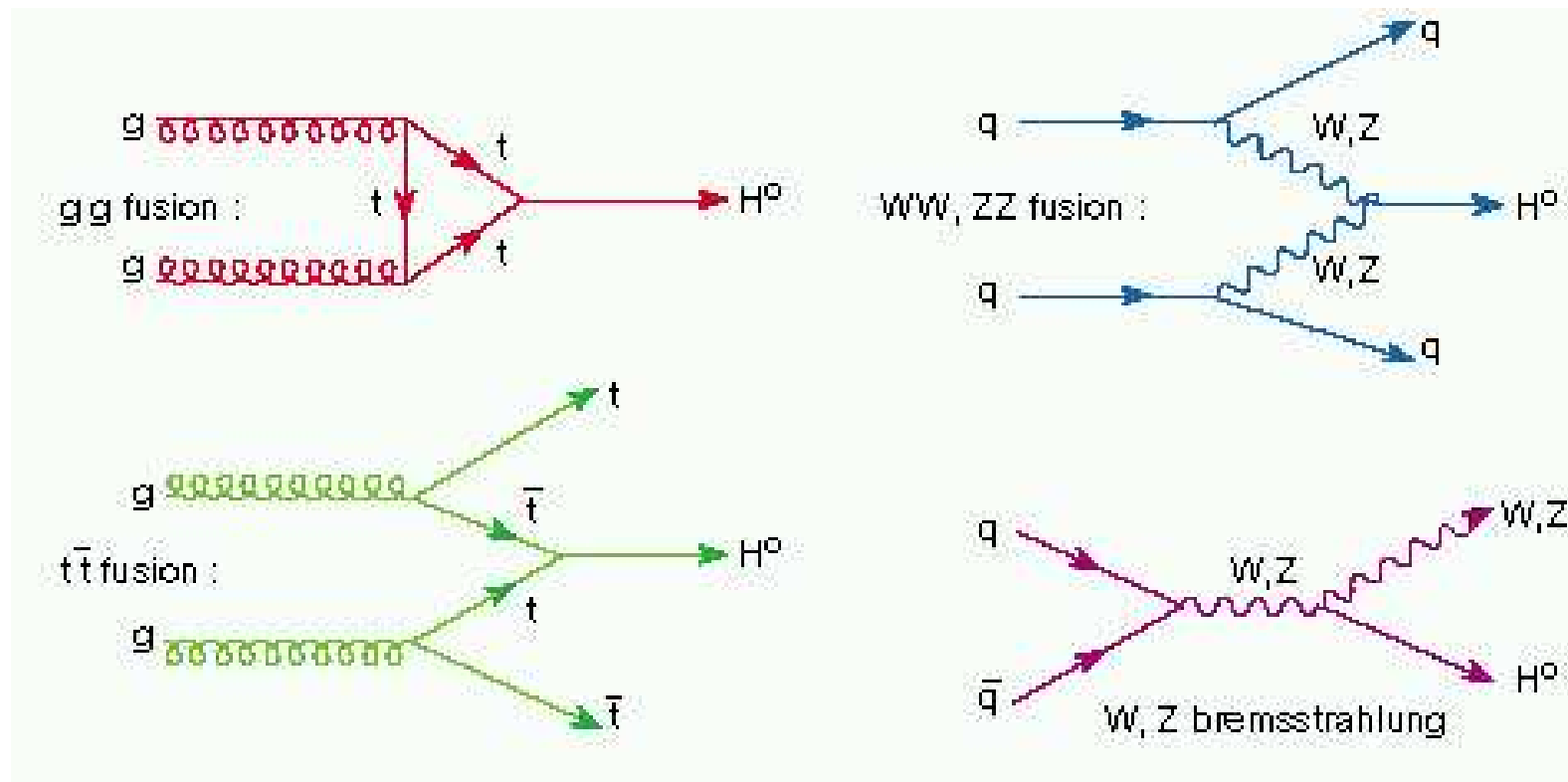
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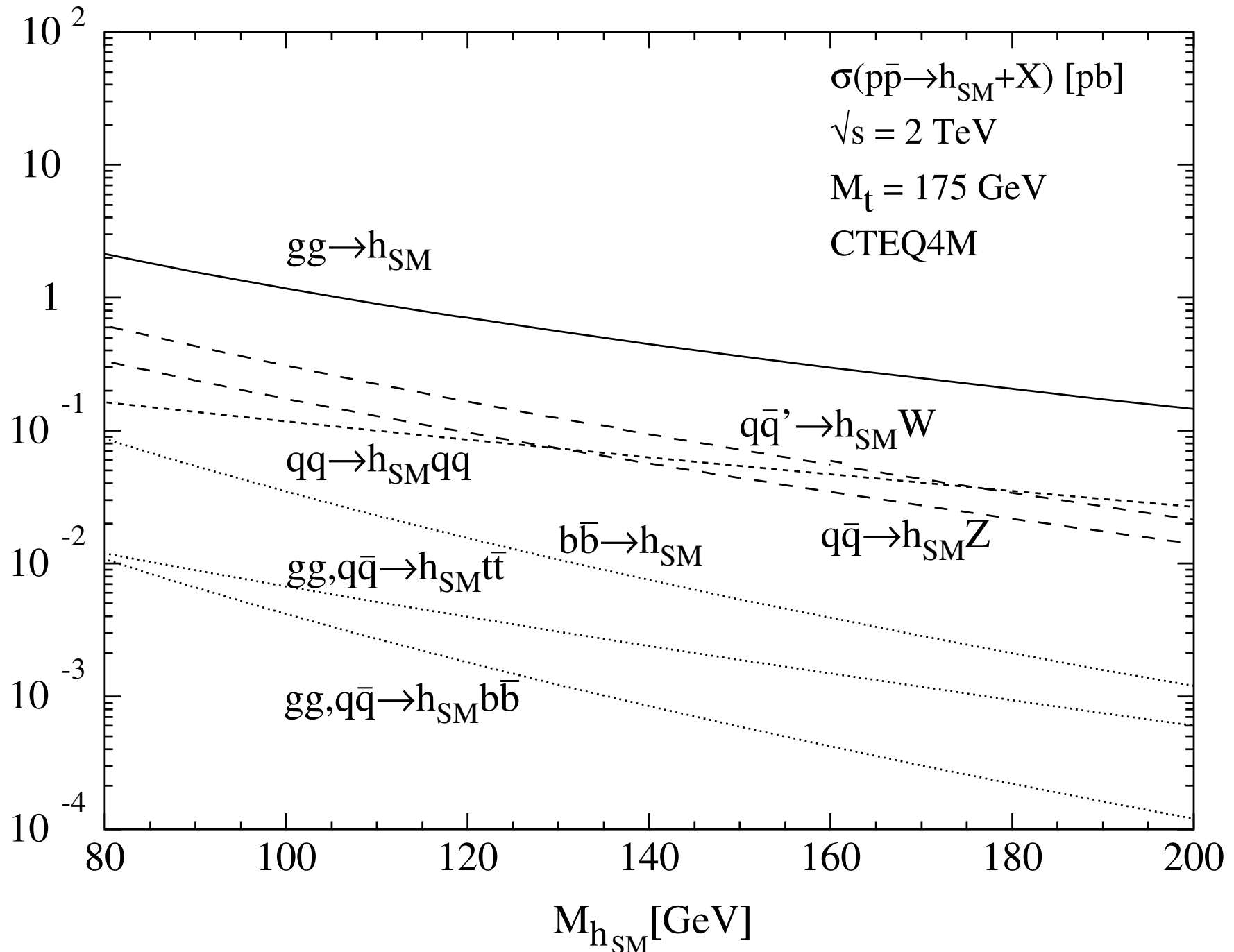
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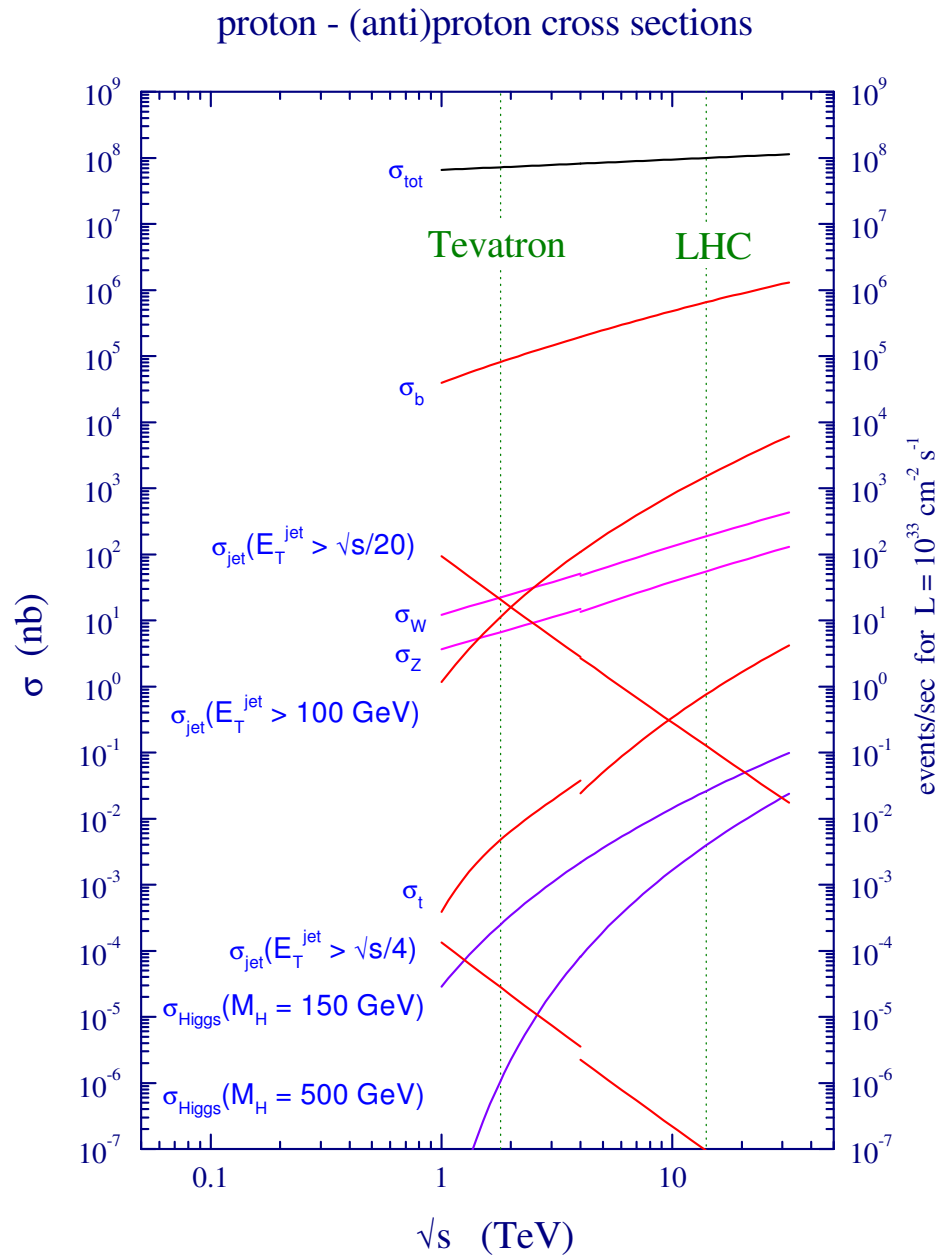
► how do we produce the Higgs at a hadron collider?



Which process is largest? The answer might surprise...



Ok, $gg \rightarrow H$ is largest...for a light Higgs, can we do $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$?



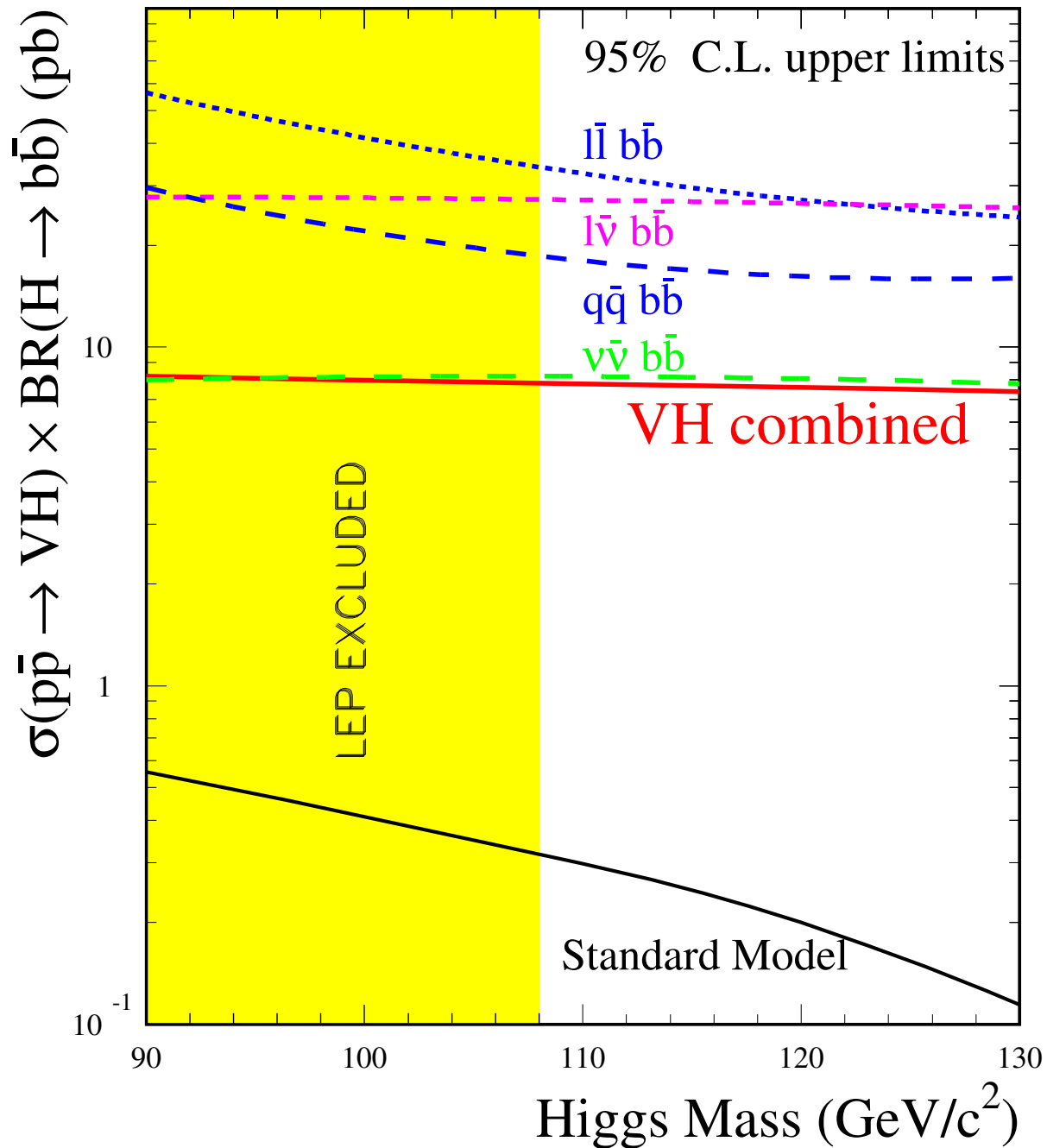
What channel works best at a hadron collider isn't so obvious...

Tevatron uses multiple channels:

- if $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ dominant, then
 - $W^\pm H \rightarrow \ell^\pm \nu b\bar{b}$
 - $ZH \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^- b\bar{b}$
 - $WH, ZH \rightarrow jjb\bar{b}$
 - $ZH \rightarrow \nu\bar{\nu}b\bar{b}$
- if $H \rightarrow W^+W^-$ dominant, then
 - $gg \rightarrow H \rightarrow W^+W^-$ (dileptons)
 - $W^\pm H \rightarrow W^\pm W^+W^-$ ($2\ell, 3\ell$)

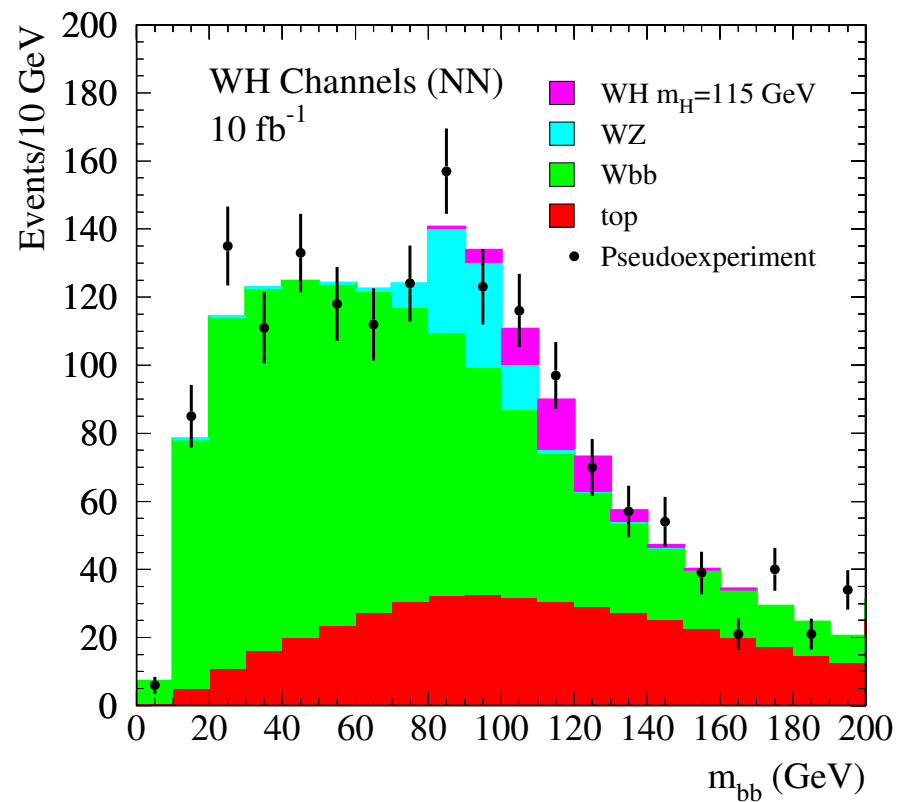
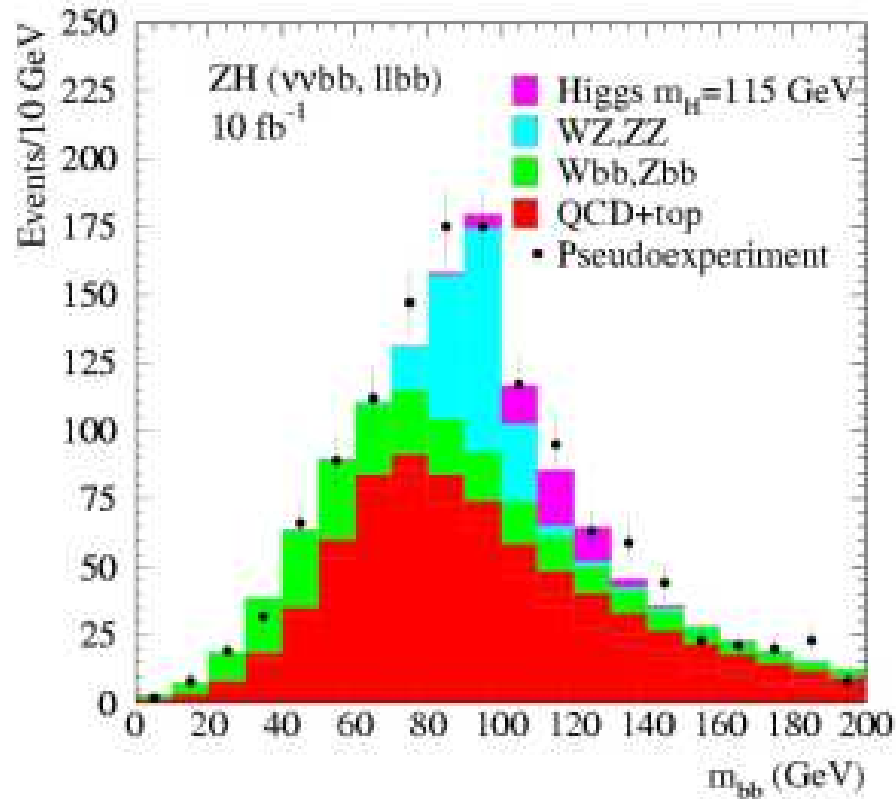
Important point: requiring leptons in the final state gets rid of many QCD backgrounds, but not top quark pairs!

Note that finite jet pair mass resolution $\pm 15 - 20$ GeV seriously complicates a search for a narrow resonance.



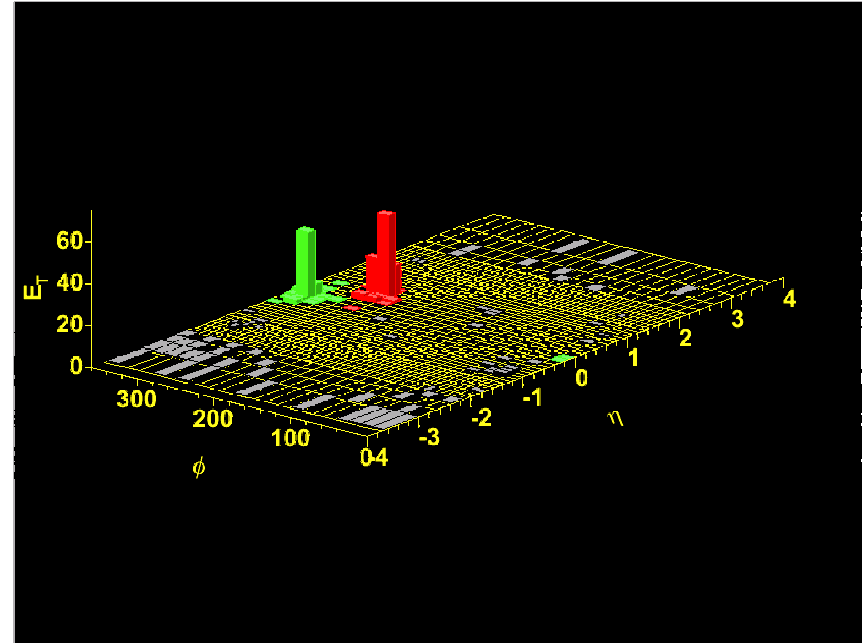
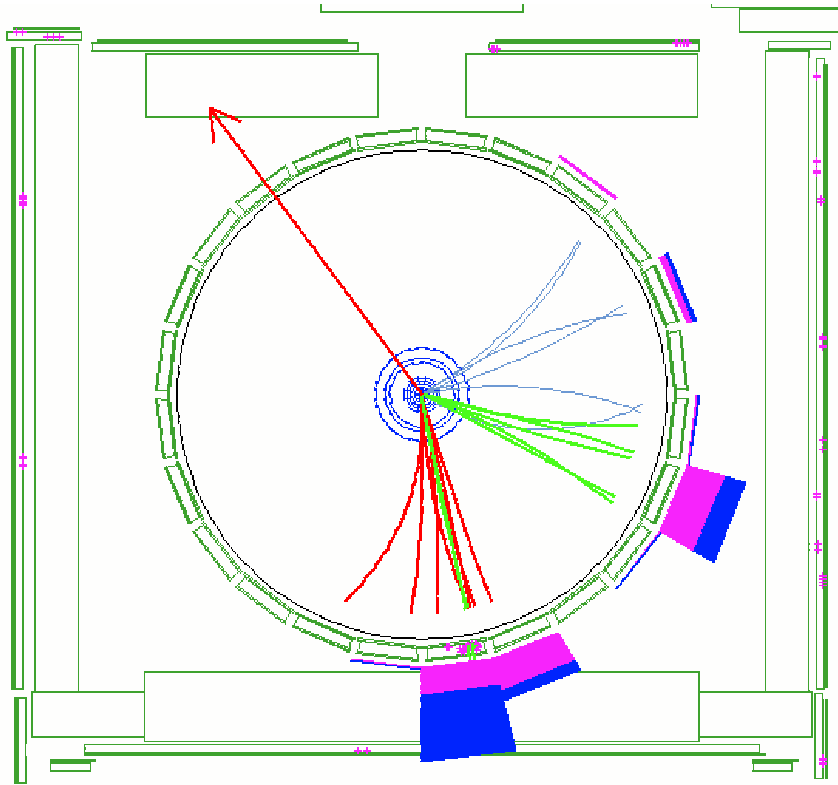
→ Run I very far from discovery level, but Run II is far superior

For “light” H , $ZH \rightarrow \nu\bar{\nu}b\bar{b}$ and $WH \rightarrow \ell\nu b\bar{b}$ are the cleanest:



Higgs signal is a very tiny addition to a steeply falling bkg –
how well do we know the bkg shape? (Hint: it's QCD...)

Example: CDF Run II $ZH \rightarrow \nu\bar{\nu}b\bar{b}$ candidate event



Two b-tagged jets

Jet₁ $E_T = 100.3 \text{ GeV}$

Jet₂ $E_T = 54.7 \text{ GeV}$

$m_{jj} = 82 \text{ GeV}$

Missing $E_T = 145 \text{ GeV}$

Could be ZZ

→ not so straightforward to say what any given event is

For “heavier” Higgs, $gg \rightarrow H \rightarrow W^+W^-$ is best chance:

- both W 's decay to $\ell\nu$ to get rid of QCD bkg

$p\bar{p} \rightarrow W^+W^-$ bkg is largest, about 100x SM Higgs signal

Use Dittmar-Dreiner angular lepton correlation to reduce bkg:

$W_T^+W_T^-$ component:

$$W_T^+ \rightarrow \ell^+ \nu_\ell \propto (1 + \cos \theta_\ell)^2$$

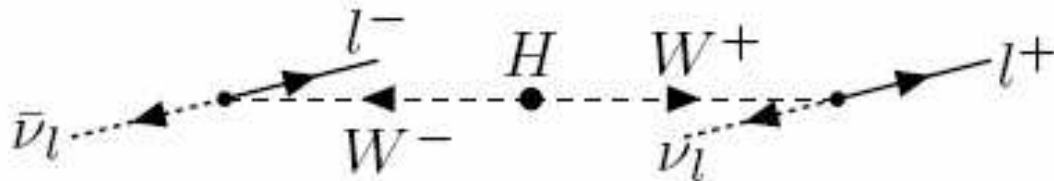
$$W_T^- \rightarrow \ell^- \bar{\nu}_\ell \propto (1 - \cos \theta_\ell)^2$$

W^\pm spins anti-correlated \therefore emitted in same direction

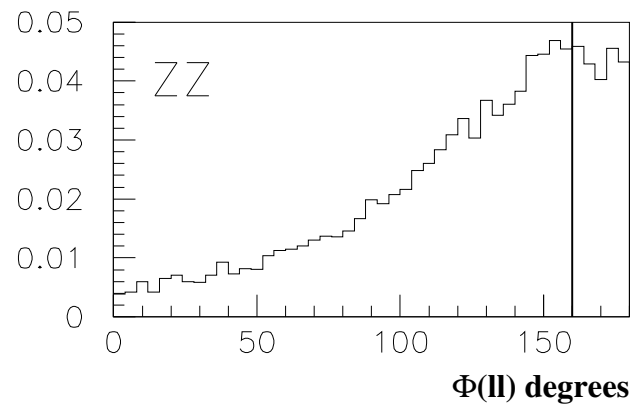
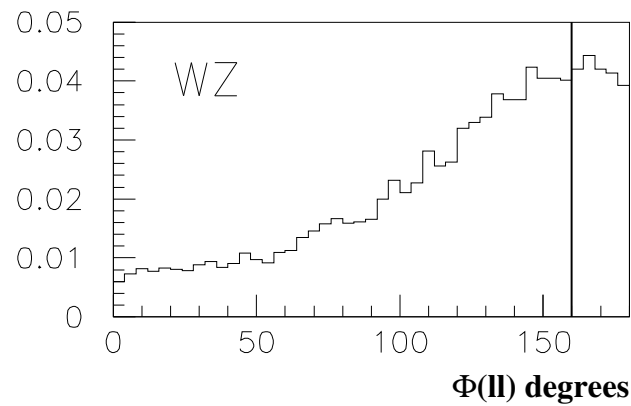
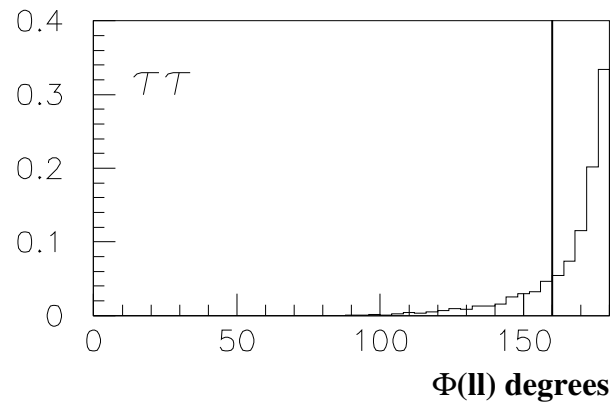
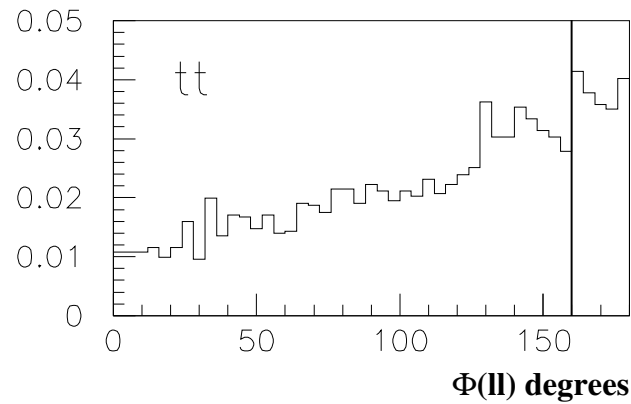
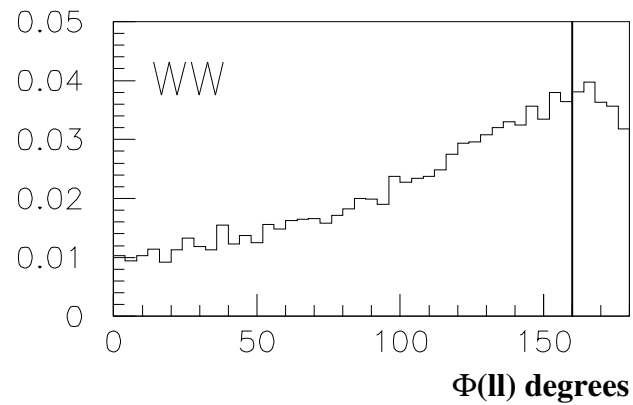
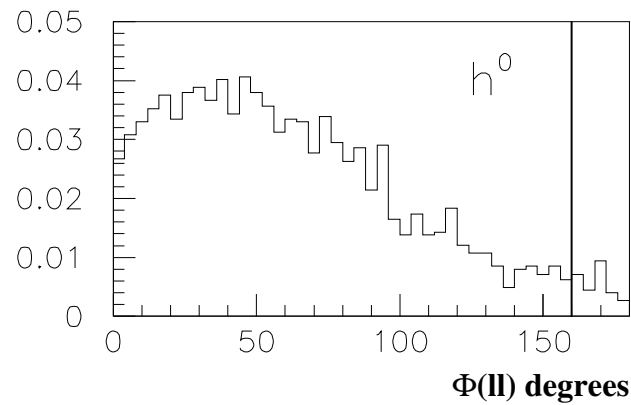
$W_L^+W_L^-$ component:

$$|M|^2 \propto (\ell^- \cdot \nu)(\ell^+ \cdot \bar{\nu}) \rightarrow \text{same result}$$

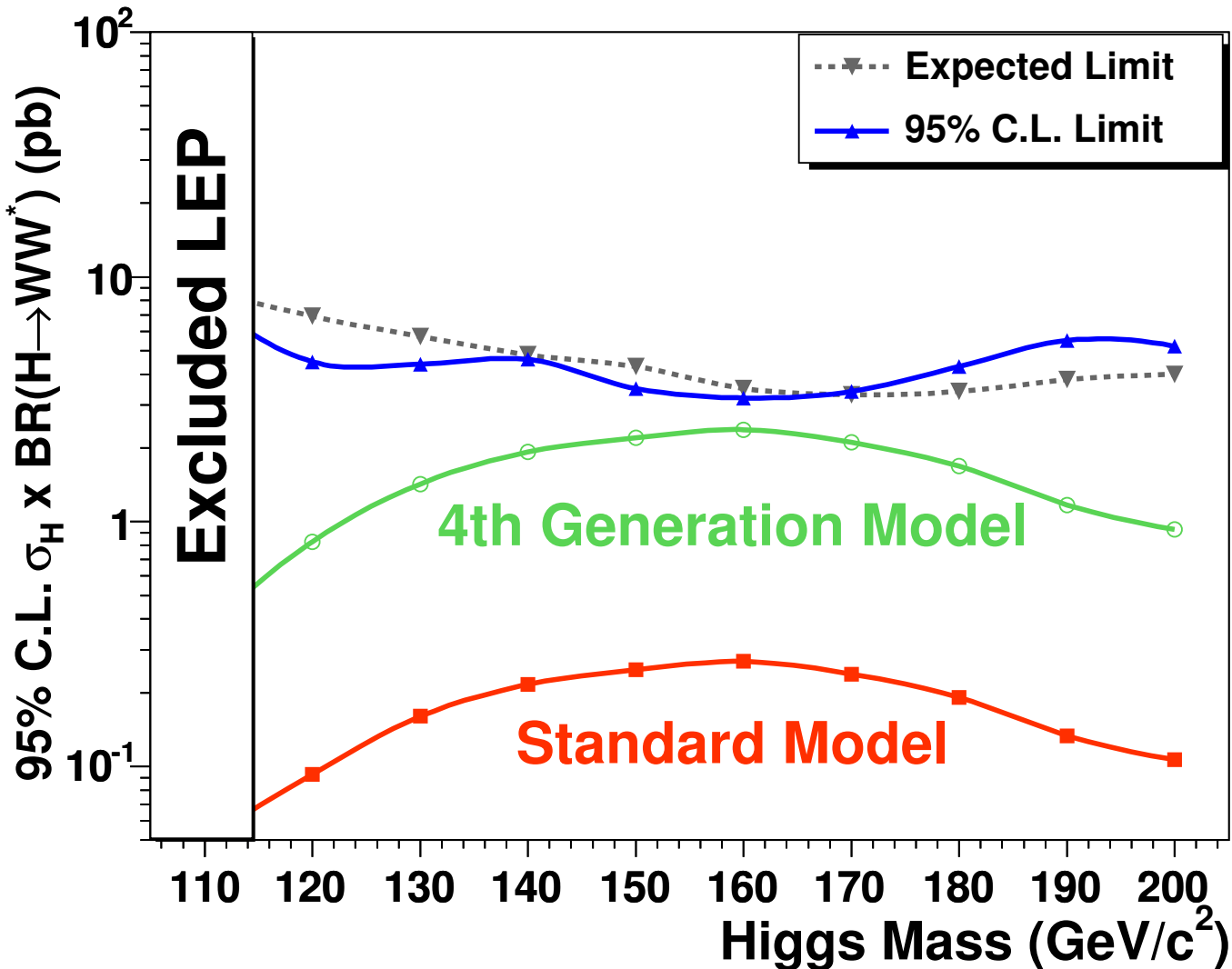
► $\ell^+\ell^-$ emitted preferentially together



Tev2 $gg \rightarrow H \rightarrow W^+W^- \rightarrow \ell^+\ell^- p_T$ lepton angular correlation:



Tev2 $gg \rightarrow H \rightarrow W^+W^- \rightarrow \ell^+\ell^- p_T$ limits:



→ a long way to go, but could rule out some BSM physics soon

Summary of Tevatron Higgs study predictions per 1 fb⁻¹:

(uses advanced neural net (NN)-improved analyses)

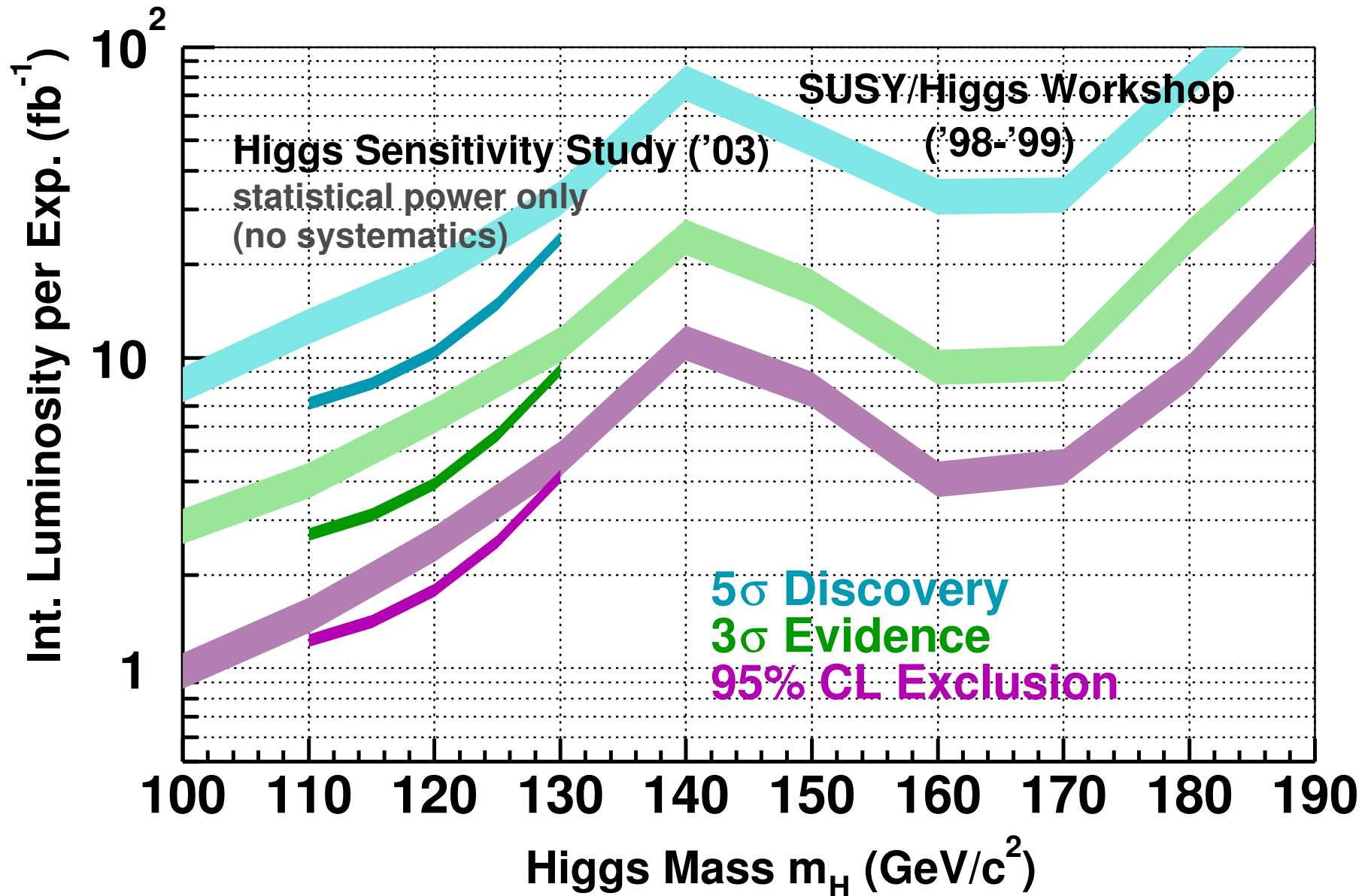
Channel	Rate	Higgs Mass (GeV/c ²)				
		90	100	110	120	130
$\ell\nu b\bar{b}$ (NN)	S	8.7	9.0	4.8	4.4	3.7
	B	28	39	19	26	46
	S/\sqrt{B}	1.6	1.4	1.1	0.9	0.5
$\nu\bar{\nu} b\bar{b}$ (NN)	S	12	8	6.3	4.7	3.9
	B	123	70	55	45	47
	S/\sqrt{B}	1.1	1.0	0.8	0.7	0.6
$\ell^+\ell^- b\bar{b}$ (NN)	S	1.2	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.6
	B	2.9	1.9	2.3	2.8	1.9
	S/\sqrt{B}	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.4
$q\bar{q} b\bar{b}$ (SHW)	S	8.1	5.6	3.5	2.5	1.3
	B	6800	3600	2800	2300	2000
	S/\sqrt{B}	0.10	0.09	0.07	0.05	0.03

Contemplate: 5 fb⁻¹ for $M_H = 120$ GeV in the best channel would be

$$S = 23, \quad B = 225, \quad S/\sqrt{B} = 1.6\sigma$$

► Tev2 Higgs search must combine several extremely weak channels

Tevatron Run II search ultimately depends on statistical combination of multiple very weak channels: damned by low luminosity!

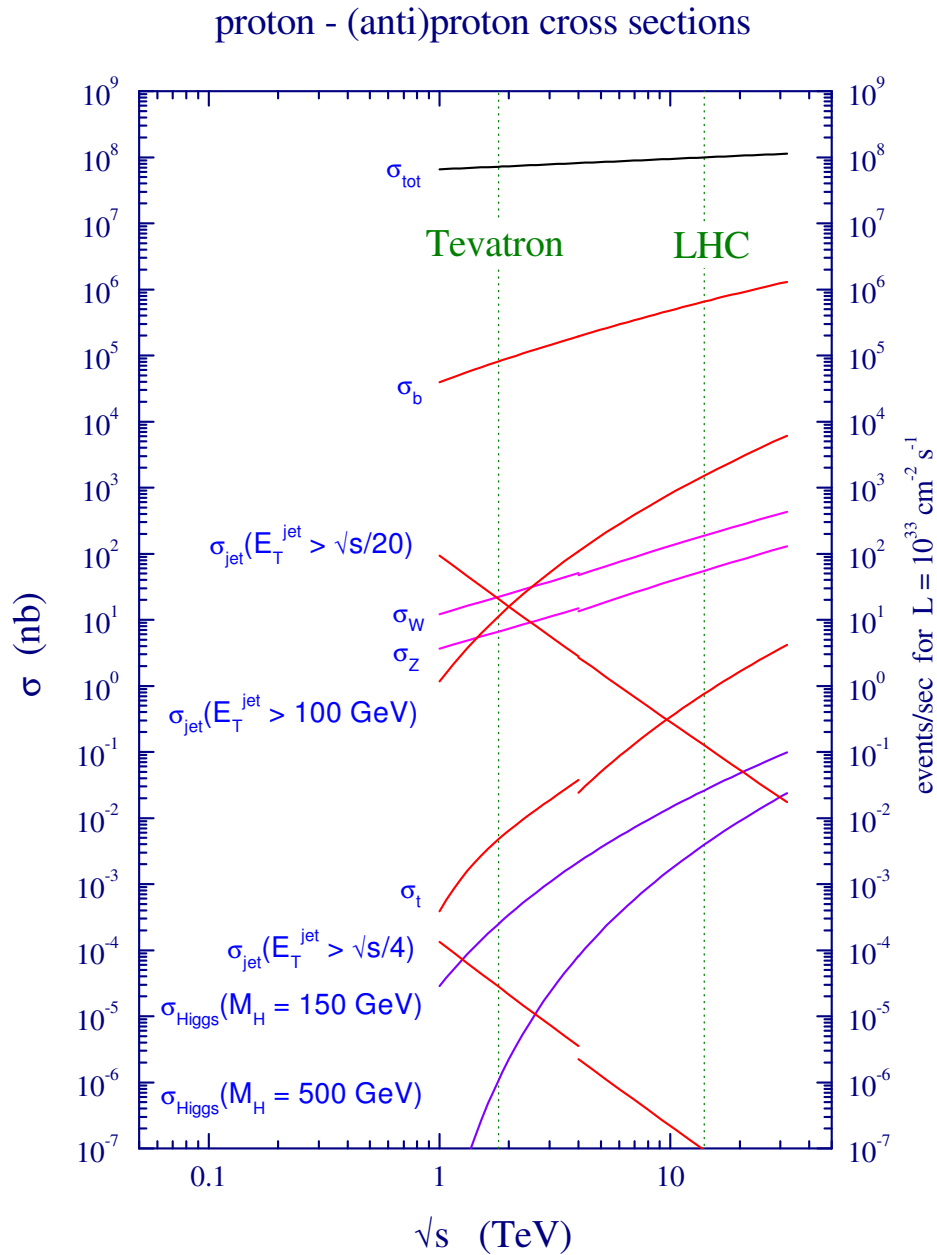


SM HIGGS AT LHC

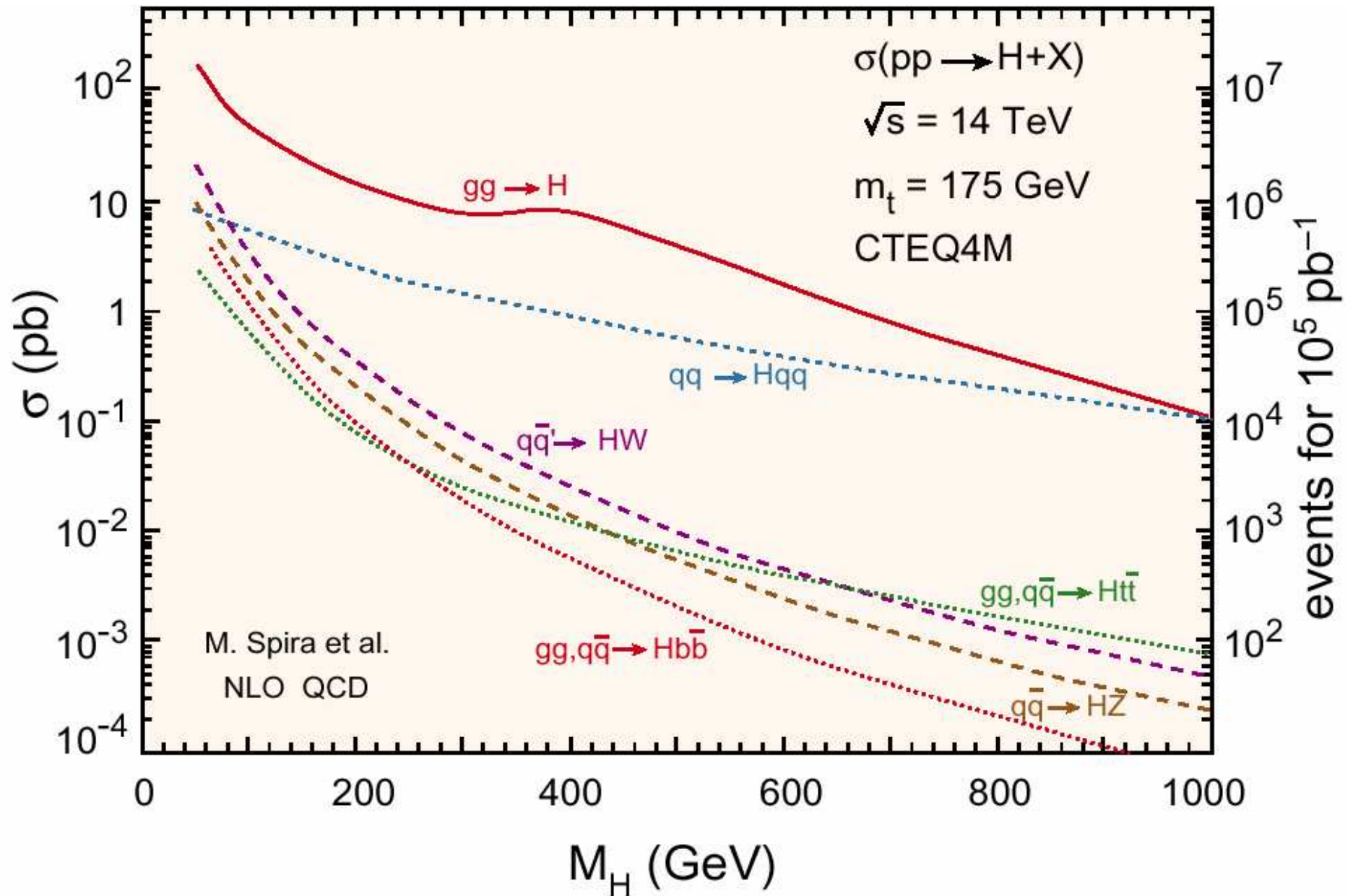
(starts in 1 year!)

The LHC is really a gluon collider!

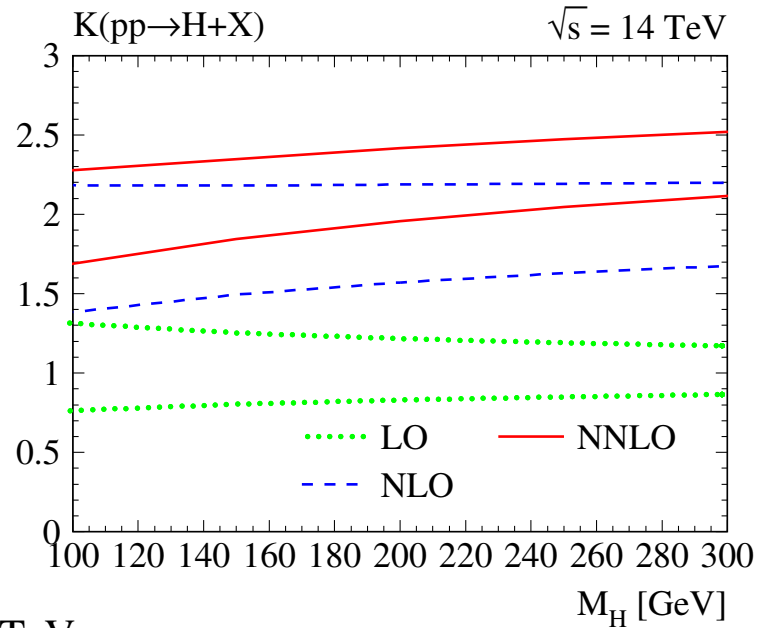
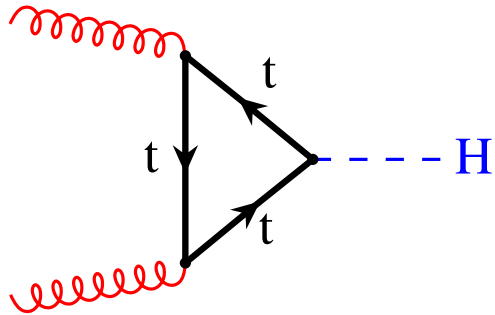
Compared to Tevatron, QCD/EW xsec ratio is much larger – except for H .



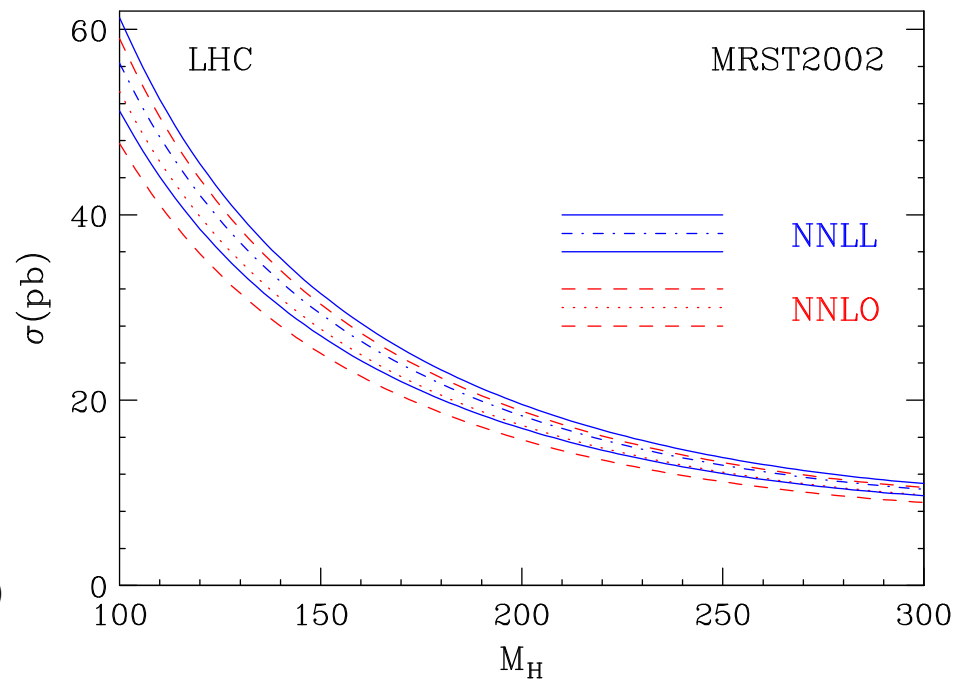
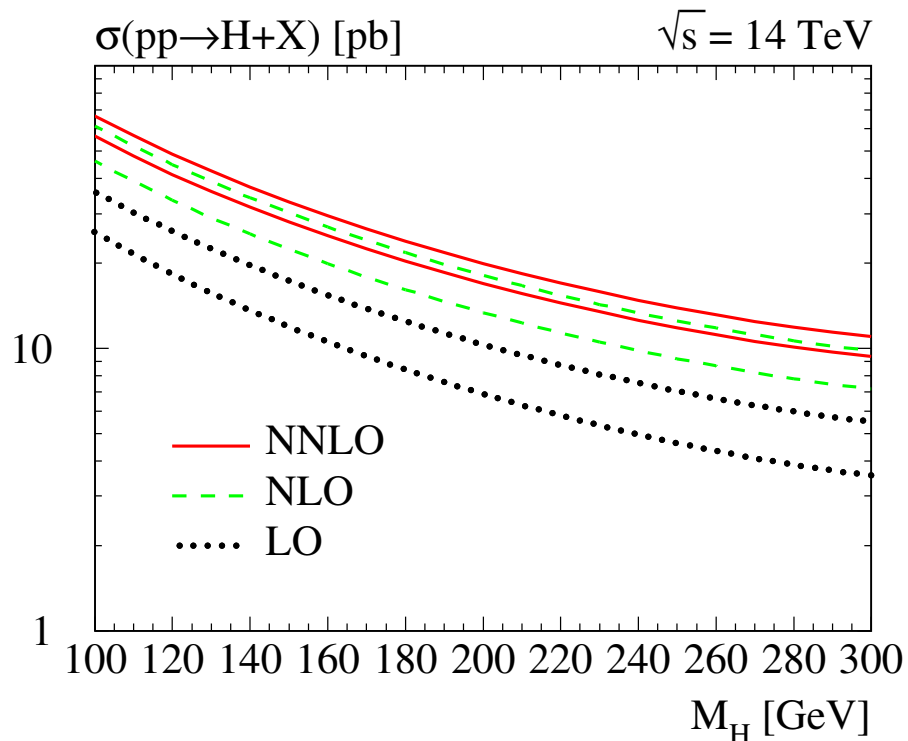
However, while $gg \rightarrow H$ rises QCD-like, the VH channels become relatively quite small.



Note: significant QCD corrections to inclusive Higgs production



As cross sections:



→ NNLO+NNLL corrections important; $gg \rightarrow H$ understood well now

What Higgs channels are best as a function of M_H ?

Not straightforward: WBF viable @ LHC (unlike Tev2), and need to know:

- (a) $\sigma \cdot \text{BR}$
- (b) S v. B and uncertainty on (especially) B
- (c) detector capabilities

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- (a) $\sigma \cdot \text{BR}$
- (b) S v. B and uncertainty on (especially) B
- (c) detector capabilities

Some surprises waiting...

- WBF far better than GF (inclusive) Higgs production
- $t\bar{t}H$ is a tragedy, not a victory
- QCD comes back to bite us
- we know what to do, but aren't prepared to do it

→ the old ATLAS TDR is incredibly out of date (CMS TDR out this summer)

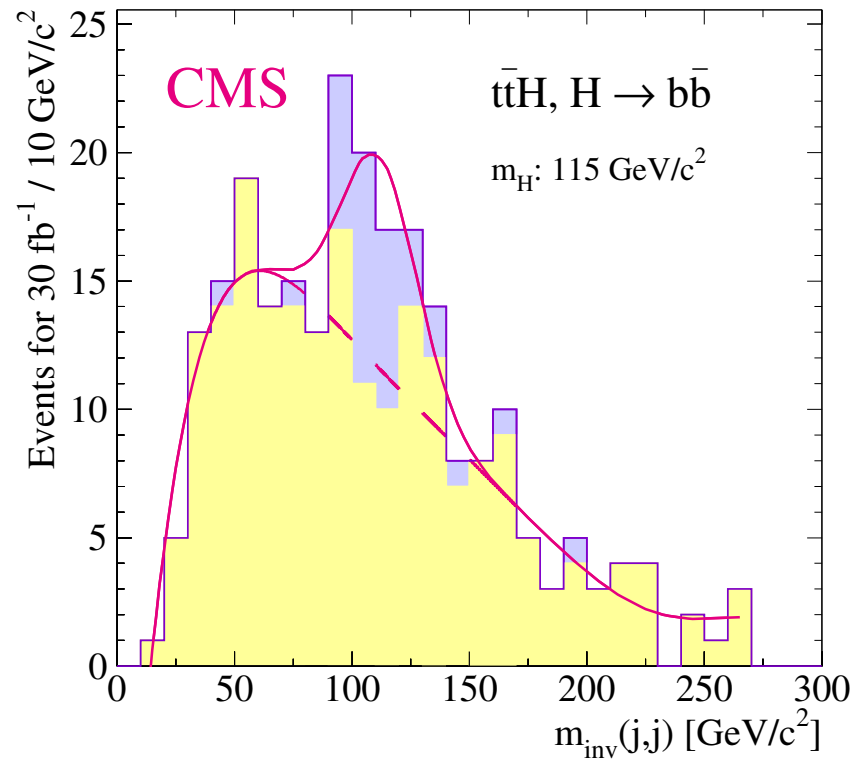
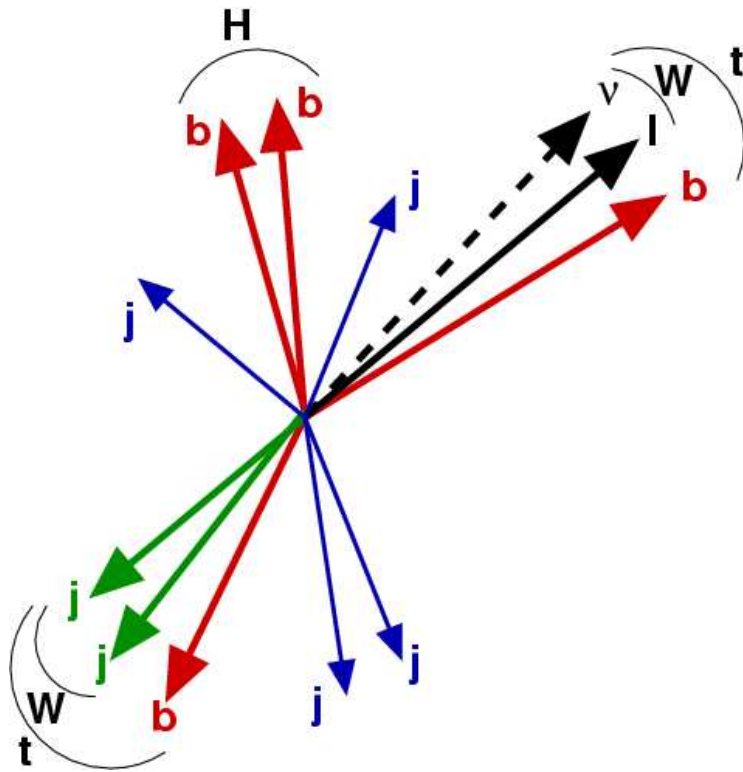
In spite of these dire-sounding warnings,

LHC is a far better Higgs factory than we had imagined

(and just keeps getting better)

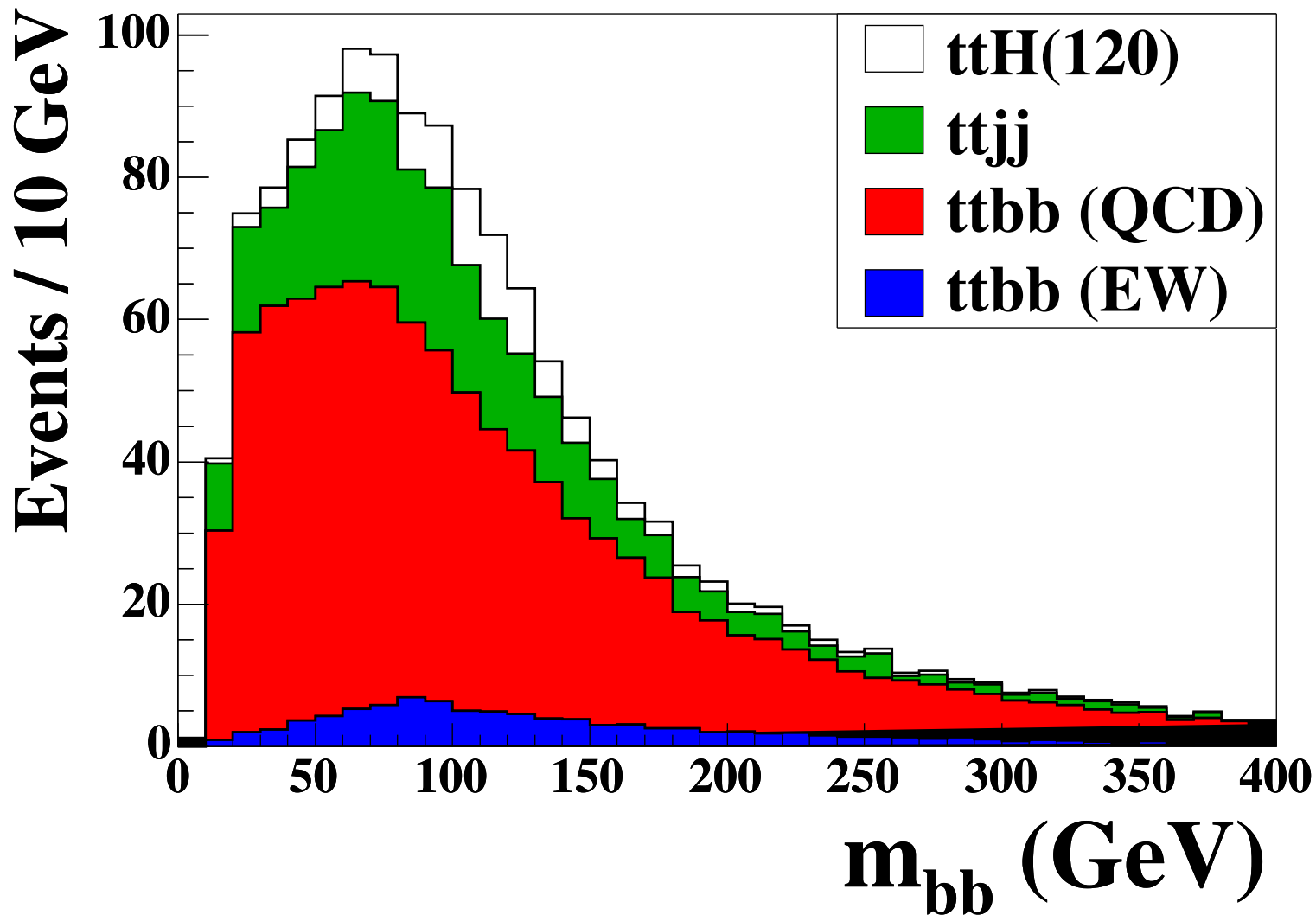
The story of $t\bar{t}H$ at LHC

Idea: t - H coupling is “large”, and $t\bar{t}H$ signal is highly complex
∴ unique, should be very little background.



- need ≥ 1 lepton to trigger on events
- original detector studies looked glorious
- problem: original studies did not think about QCD carefully!
→ $t\bar{t}b\bar{b}, t\bar{t}jj$ in the soft/collinear approximation is no good

Current $t\bar{t}H, H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ outlook: (30 fb^{-1})



▷ S/B now about 1/6 for $M_H = 120 \text{ GeV}$

► shape change now very marginal

And in the (lack of) shape lies the sleeping dragon...

There are two types of analysis error in measuring backgrounds:

1. statistical error on sideband measurement
2. systematic error on shape extrapolation to signal region

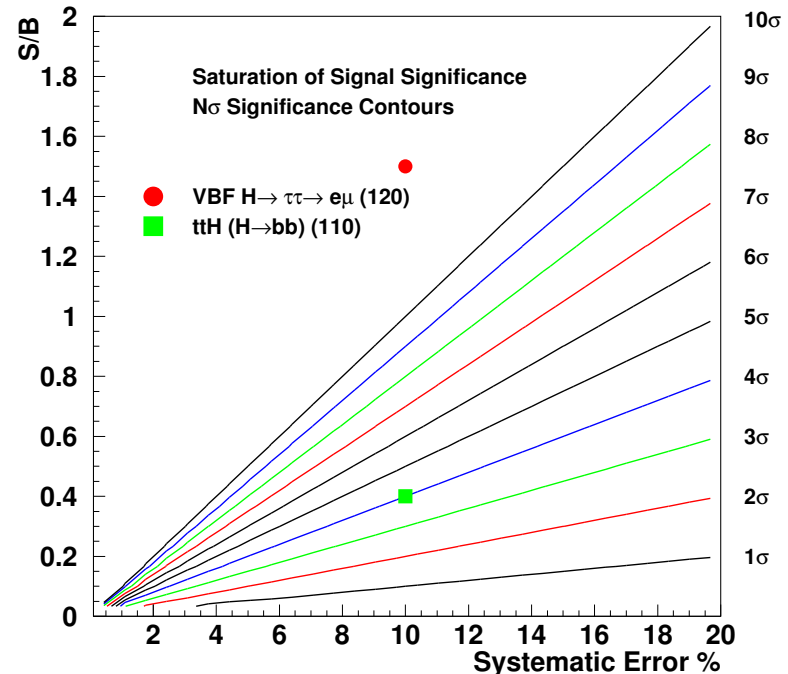
Significance formula changes: $\frac{S}{\sqrt{B}} \rightarrow \frac{S}{\sqrt{B(1+B\Delta^2)}}$

where Δ is the shape uncertainty (a kind of normalization uncer.)

If S/B is fixed as luminosity \uparrow , then signif. saturates: $\sigma_{\infty} = \frac{S/B}{\Delta_{\text{shape}}}$

$\Delta = 10\%$ for $t\bar{t}H, H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$,
so can never get to 5σ as $L \rightarrow \infty$

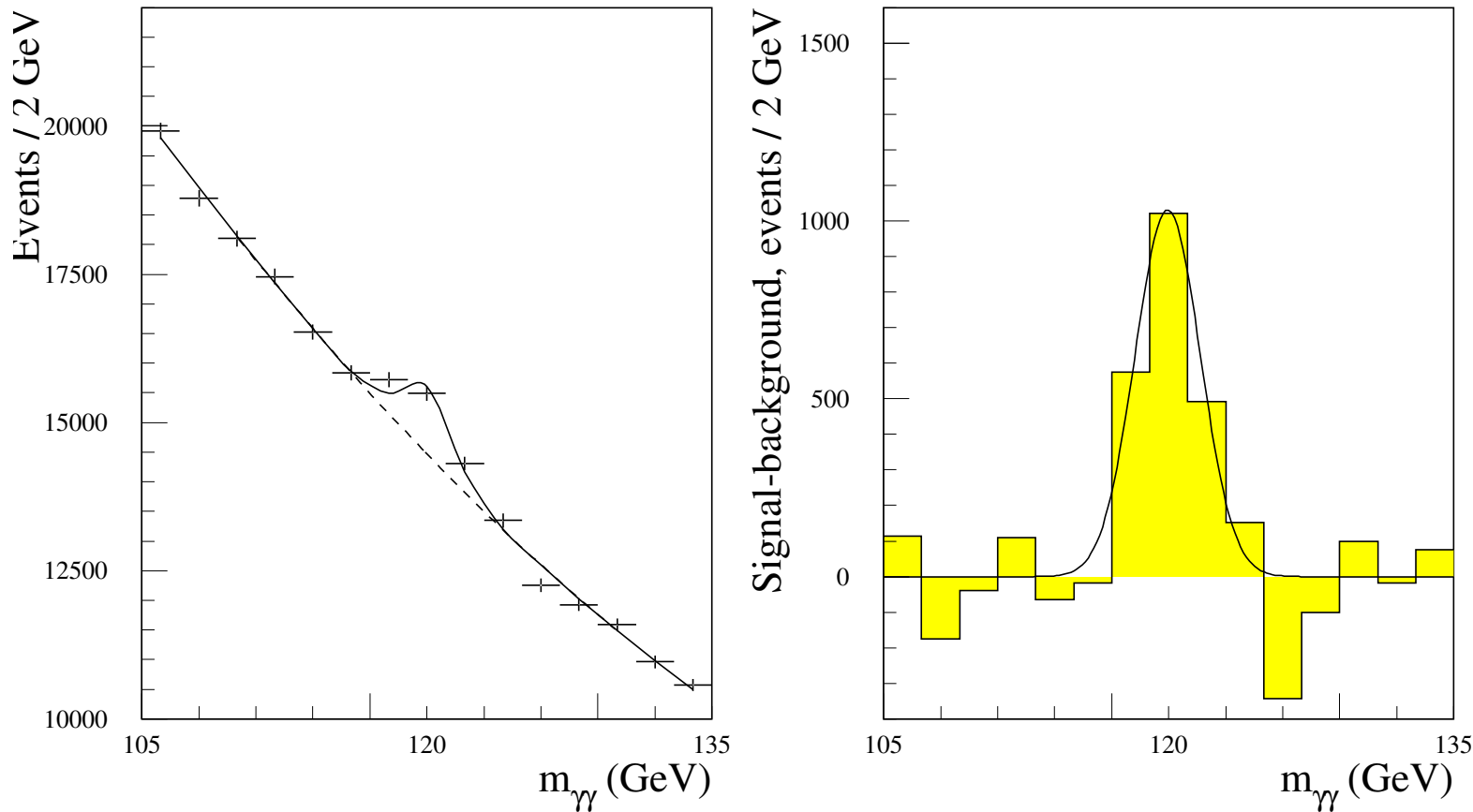
\Rightarrow limits not just discovery,
but use as measurement



$gg \rightarrow H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ at the LHC

Idea: rare decay might win because bkg is also EW, not QCD.

(recall $\text{BR}(H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma) \sim \mathcal{O}(0.2)\%$ for light $110 \lesssim M_H \lesssim 140$ GeV)



(for 30 fb^{-1})

→ might not be discovery, but gets mass to 1%

- requires very good jet (fake photon) rejection – $j\gamma$, jj bkg's non-trivial detector sim. estimates still range over a factor 2

Still at “low” M_H , what about $H \rightarrow \tau^+ \tau^-$?

But taus aren’t observed directly, they decay immediately:

$$\text{BR}(\tau \rightarrow \ell \nu_\ell \nu_\tau) = 35\% \rightarrow \text{isolated } e \text{ or } \mu (\epsilon_\ell \sim 90\%)$$

$$\text{BR}(\tau \rightarrow h_1 \nu_\tau) = 50\% \rightarrow \text{“1-prong” hadronic } (\epsilon_h \sim 25\%)$$

$$\text{BR}(\tau \rightarrow h_3 \nu_\tau) = 15\% \rightarrow \text{“3-prong” hadronic (throw away)}$$

Problem! Lots of missing energy - so how to reconstruct $m_{\tau^+ \tau^-}$?

Magic reconstruction technique:

1. assume collinear τ decays: x_+, x_- are unknowns
2. measure \vec{p}_T : knowns are x, y components
3. write momentum conservation matrix and solve for x_\pm

4. calculate pair invariant mass:
$$m_{\tau\tau}^2 = \frac{m_{\ell\ell}^2}{x_+ x_-} + 2m_{\tau\tau}^2$$

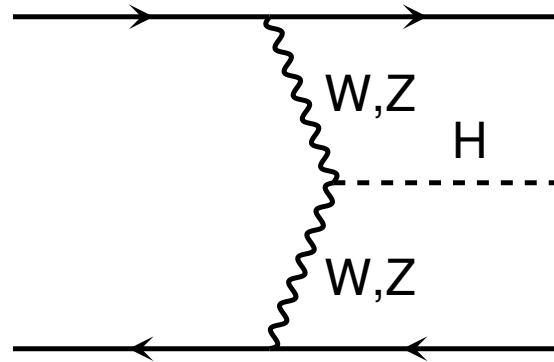
Important note: $\tau^+ \tau^-$ must not be back-to-back!

► doesn’t work then for $gg \rightarrow H \rightarrow \tau^+ \tau^-$

⇒ what about WBF?

So what is this WBF process anyway?

An incoming pair of quarks emit a pair of gauge bosons, which fuse:

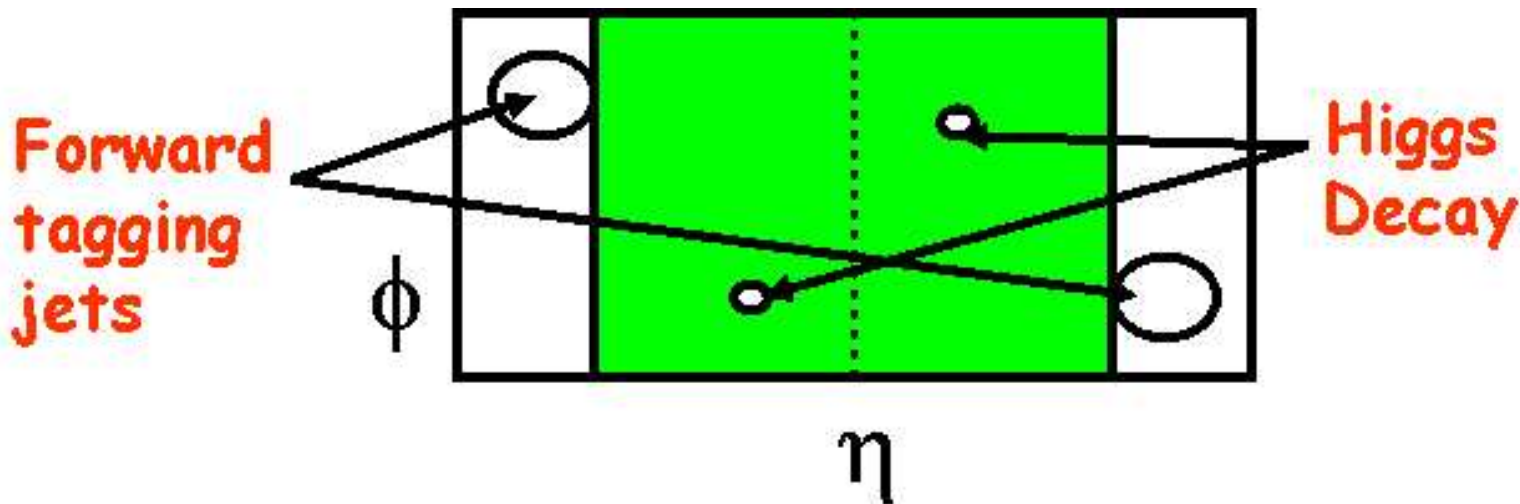


► quarks get scattered far-forward/backward into detector as jets

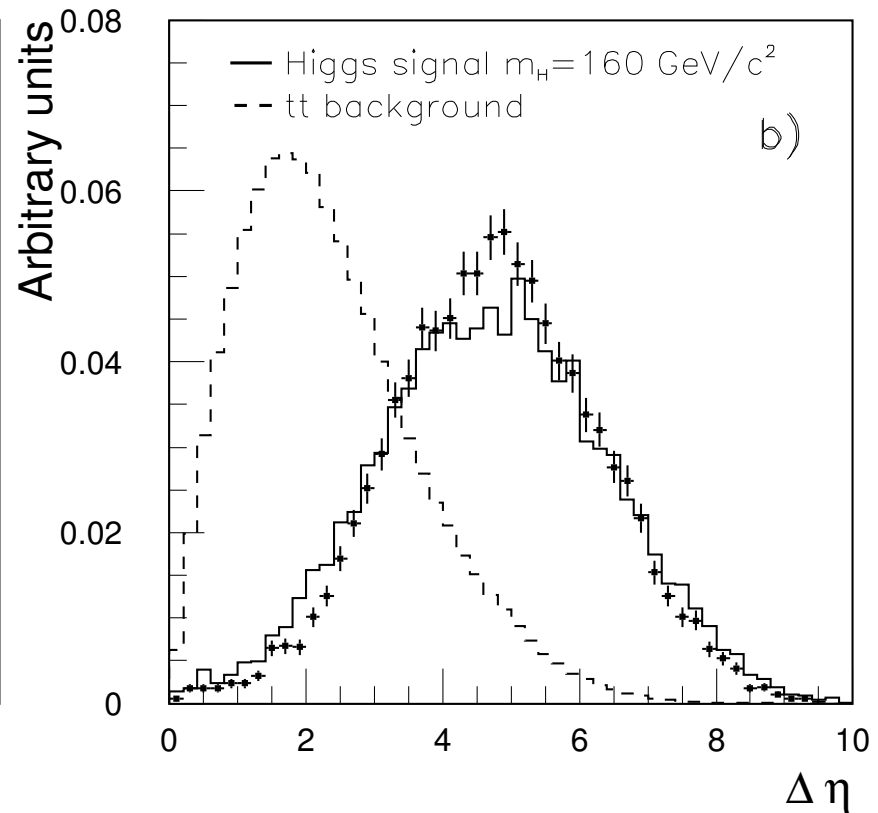
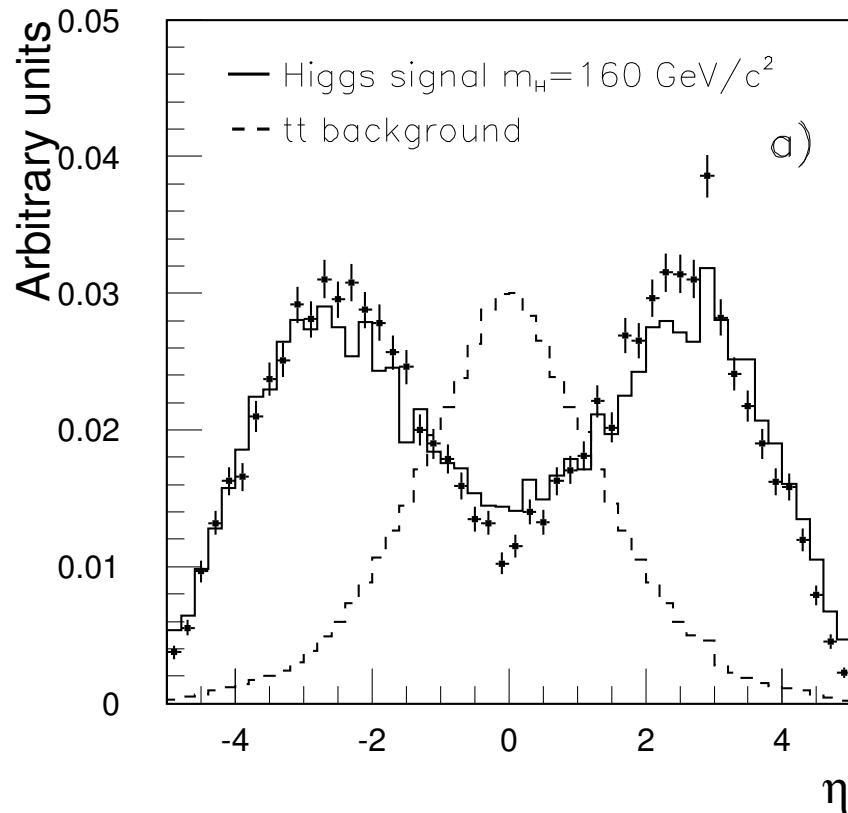
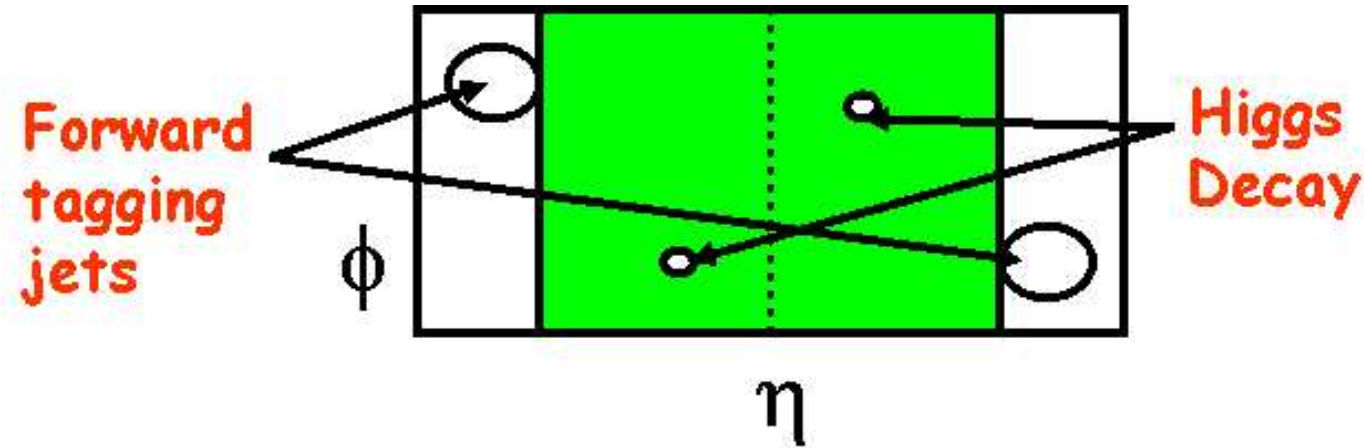
Why? Recall W propagator $\frac{1}{Q^2 - M^2}$:

minimal suppression for small Q^2 , which is always spacelike

for small Q^2 , $Q^2 = (p_f - p_i)^2 \approx E_q^2(1 - x)\theta^2$, x small



Sample “tagging jet” distributions against top quark background:



→ QCD processes look different

...back to WBF $H \rightarrow \tau^+ \tau^-$

- tau channels to use are $\ell^\pm h$ and $\ell^+ \ell^-$ (need a lepton for trigger)

What are the backgrounds? (take $\ell^+ \ell'^-$ as example)

→ anything which gives two forward jets, \cancel{p}_T and two leptons

EW $Zjj, Z \rightarrow \tau^+ \tau^-$

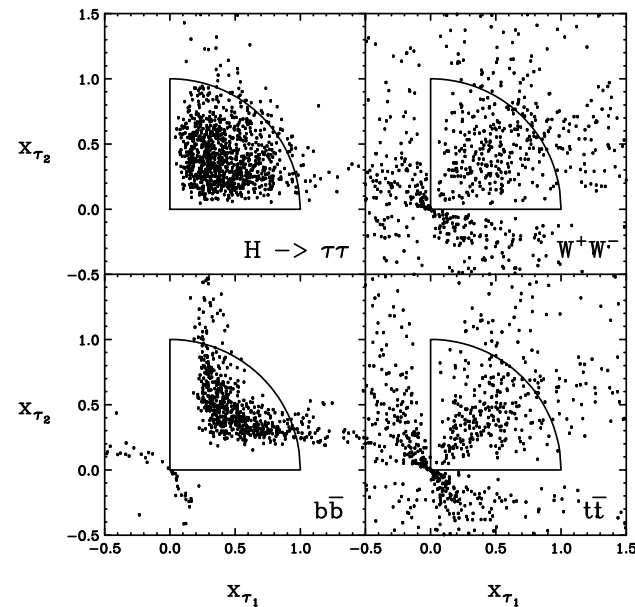
QCD $Zjj, Z \rightarrow \tau^+ \tau^-$

QCD $t\bar{t} + \text{jets} (t\bar{t}, t\bar{t}j, t\bar{t}jj)$

EW $WWjj$

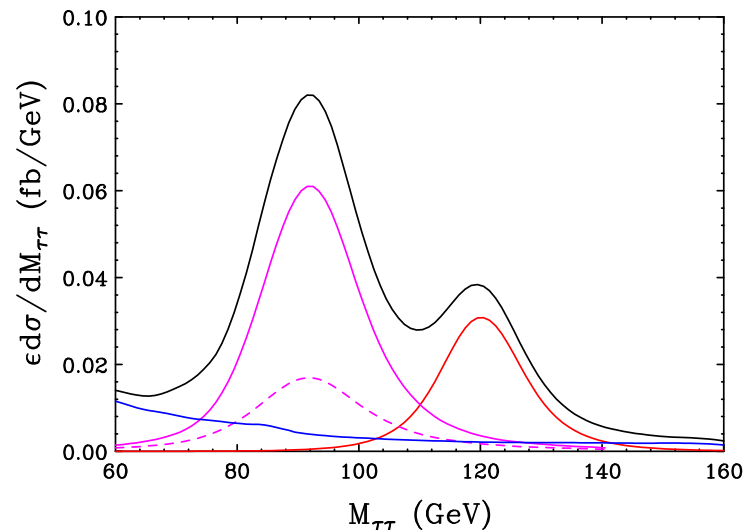
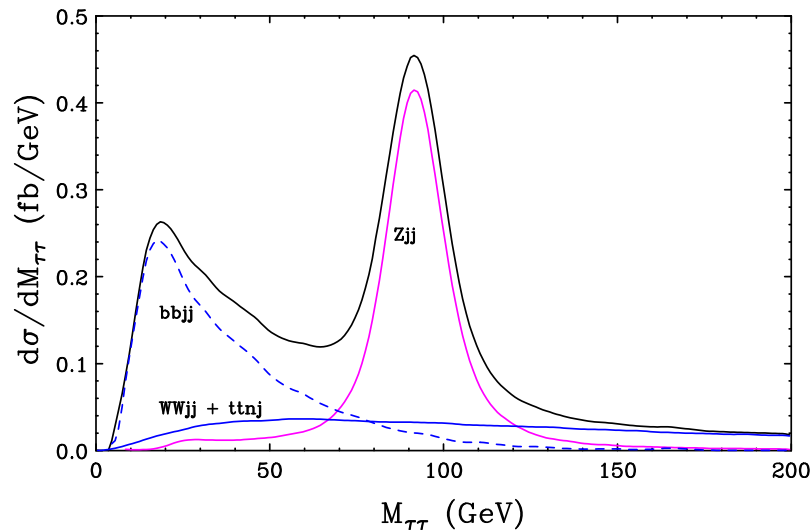
QCD $WWjj$

QCD $b\bar{b}jj$

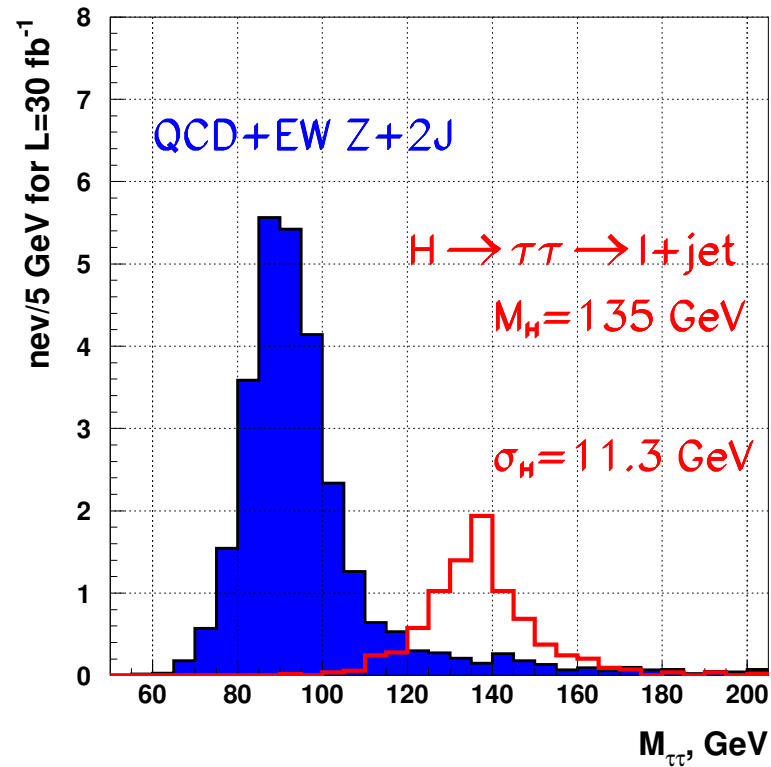
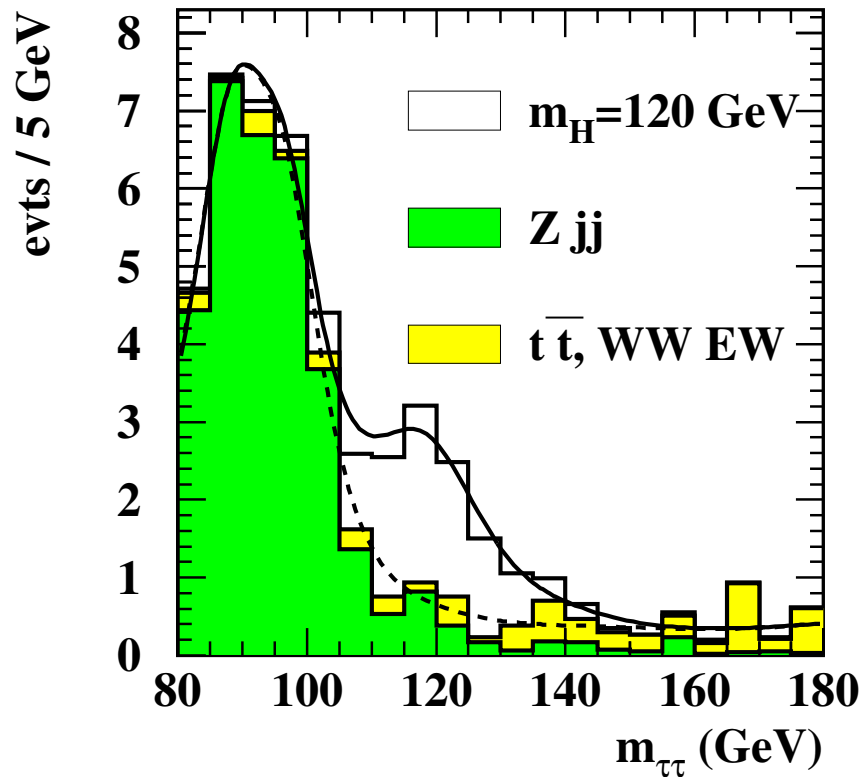


Reducible bkg's don't look like taus →

Zjj dominates - mostly QCD ↓



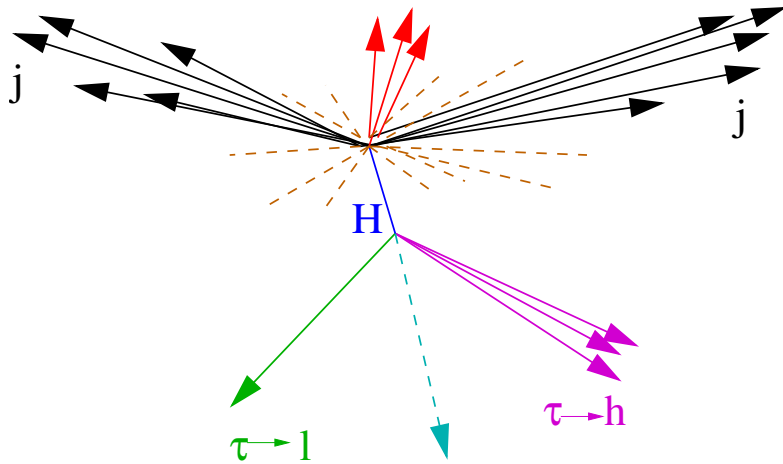
→ ATLAS & CMS say: WBF $H \rightarrow \tau^+ \tau^-$ works *extremely* well,
better than parton-level predictions



► light Higgs easy to observe with 30 fb^{-1} [joint ATLAS/CMS study 2003]

• works for $110 \lesssim M_H \lesssim 150 \text{ GeV}$ (100 fb^{-1})

WBF $H \rightarrow \tau^+\tau^-$ in more detail



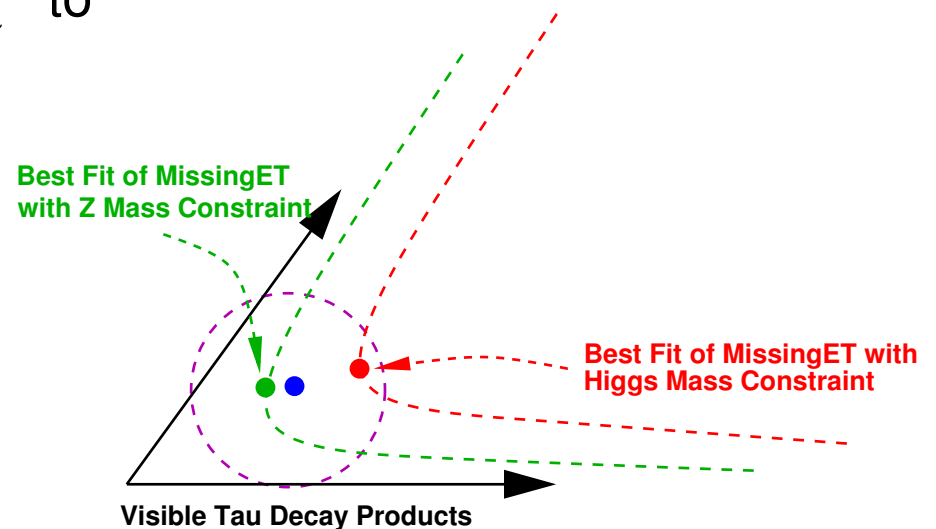
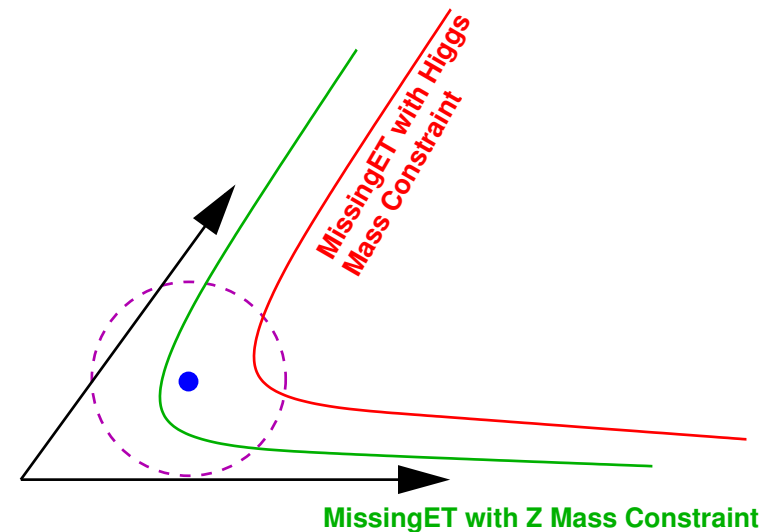
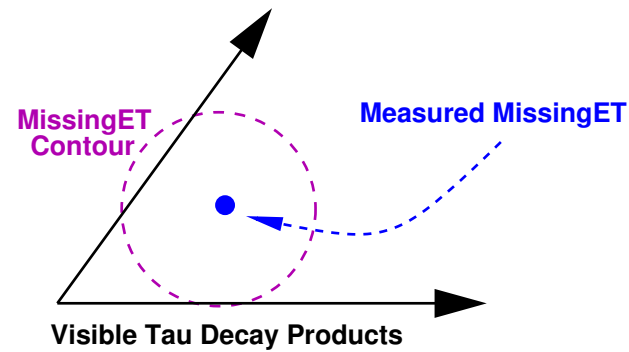
Major issue is missing transverse momentum resolution (detector):

Perform constrained fit to *both*
 $p_{T,miss}$ and M_Z , calculate $\Delta\chi^2$ to
determine better consistency with
 $H \rightarrow \tau^+\tau^-$ v. $Z \rightarrow \tau^+\tau^-$

→ recovers a lot of lost signal

→ enhances S/B by factor 4

+ neural net attack on dist'ns, etc.



What if the Higgs is slightly heavier? (say, $M_H \gtrsim 140$ GeV)

$gg \rightarrow H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ loses steam, WBF $H \rightarrow \tau^+\tau^-$ gets harder,
 $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ is totally impossible...

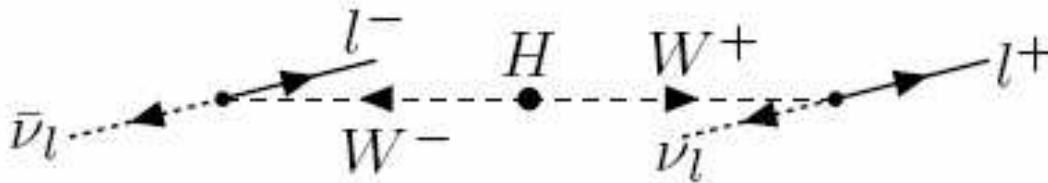
► as at Tevatron, look to $H \rightarrow W^+W^-$, ZZ decays

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For W^+W^- , recall angular correlation:

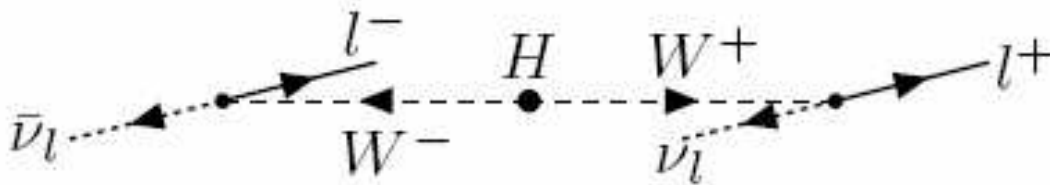


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► as at Tevatron, look to $H \rightarrow W^+W^-$, ZZ decays

For W^+W^- , recall angular correlation:



In addition, realize that for $H \rightarrow W^+W^-$ at threshold,
the W 's are at rest, so $m_{\ell\ell} = m_{\nu\nu}$. Construct transverse mass!

Transverse energies:

$$E_T(e\mu) = \sqrt{\vec{p}_T^2(\ell\ell) + m_{\ell\ell}^2} \quad \& \quad \cancel{E}_T = \sqrt{\cancel{p}_T^2 + m_{\ell\ell}^2}$$

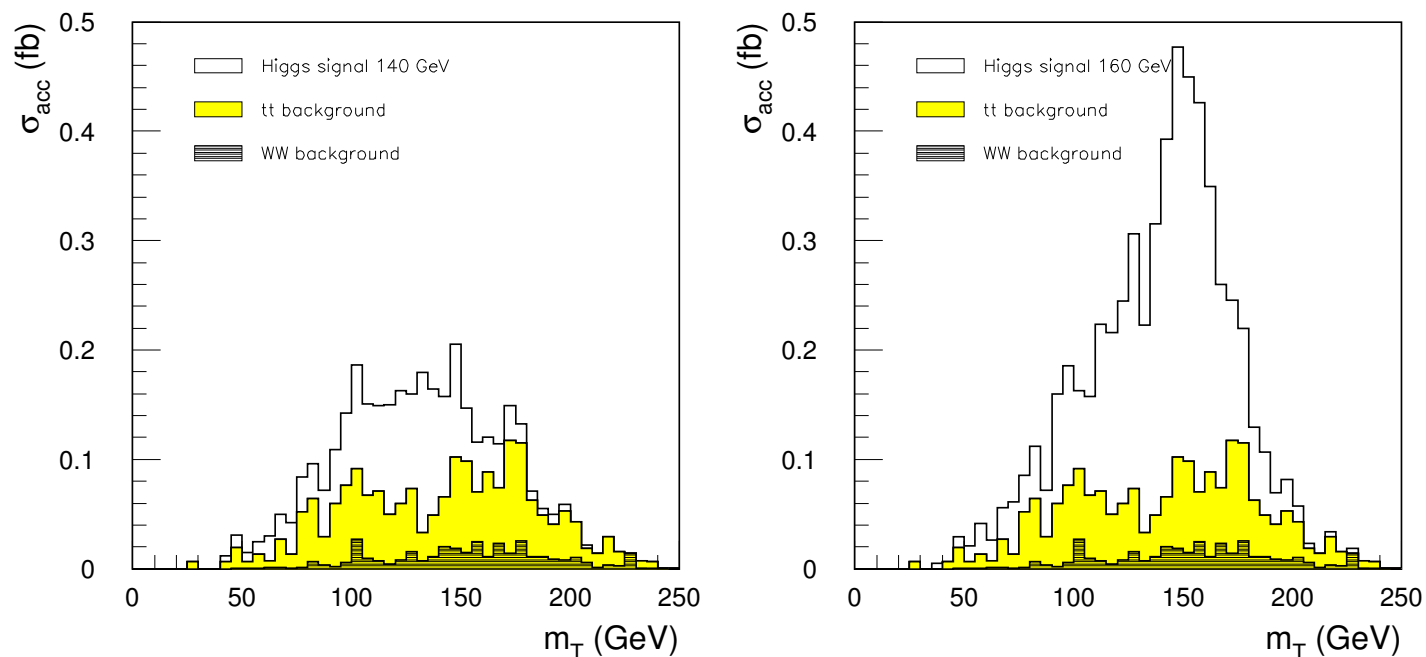
Transverse mass:

$$M_T(W^+W^-) = \sqrt{(\cancel{E}_T + E_T(\ell\ell))^2 - (\vec{p}_T(\ell\ell) + \cancel{p}_T)^2}$$

→ works well even away from threshold

ATLAS/CMS joint simulation results for WBF $H \rightarrow W^+W^-$:

- detector effects smear things out, but Jacobian peak there



Works even for $M_H = 120$ GeV:

channel	signal (fb)		background (fb)					total
	VV	gg	$t\bar{t} + Wt$	W^+W^- +jets		$\gamma^*/Z + jets$		
				EW	QCD	EW	QCD	
$e\mu$	0.52	0.05	0.58	0.27	0.03	0.02	0.05	0.95
$ee/\mu\mu$	0.50	0.04	0.58	0.30	0.03	0.03	0.39	1.33

- for low M_H , serious background uncertainties remain: mostly $t\bar{t}j$ off-shell
- ▷ needs much more study, and $t\bar{t}j$ @ NLO (on the way, thanks LoopVerein!)

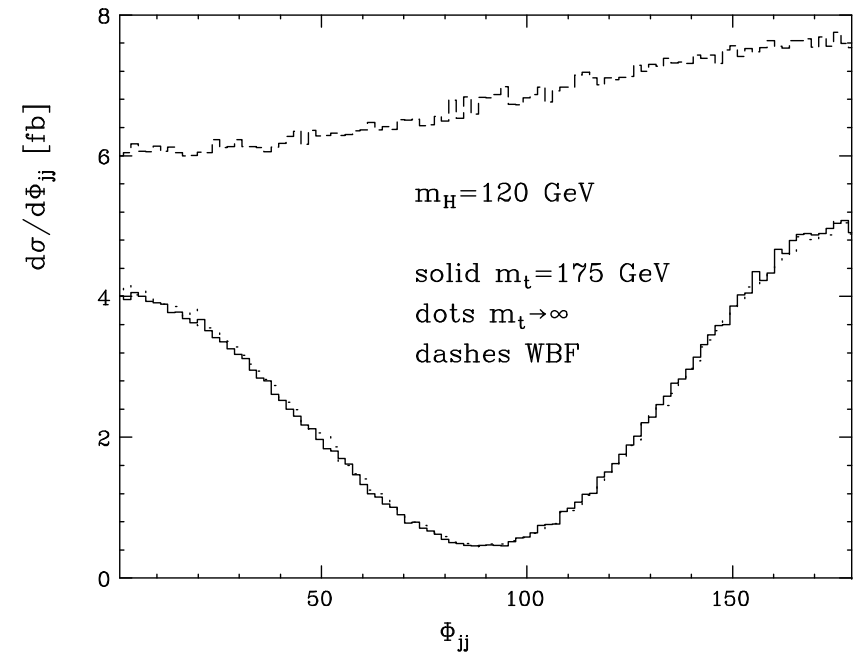
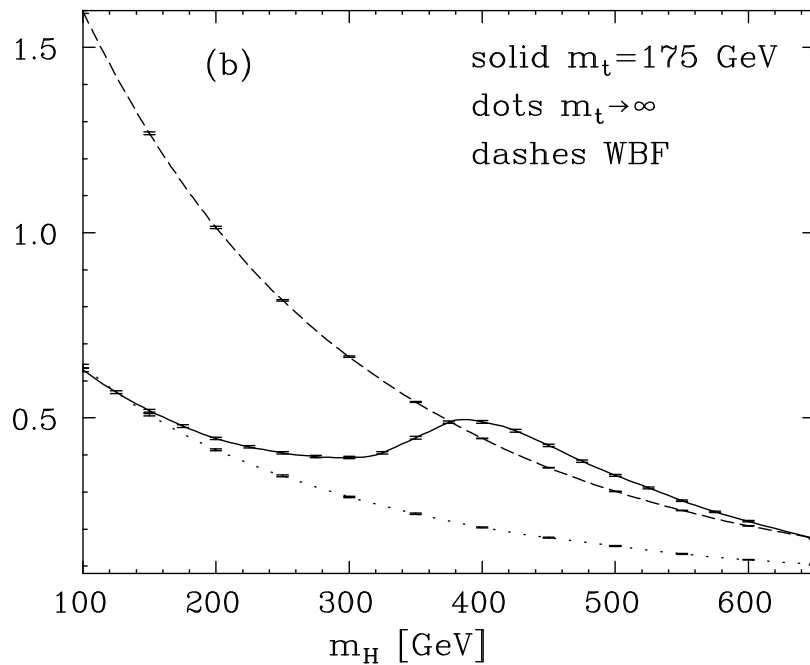
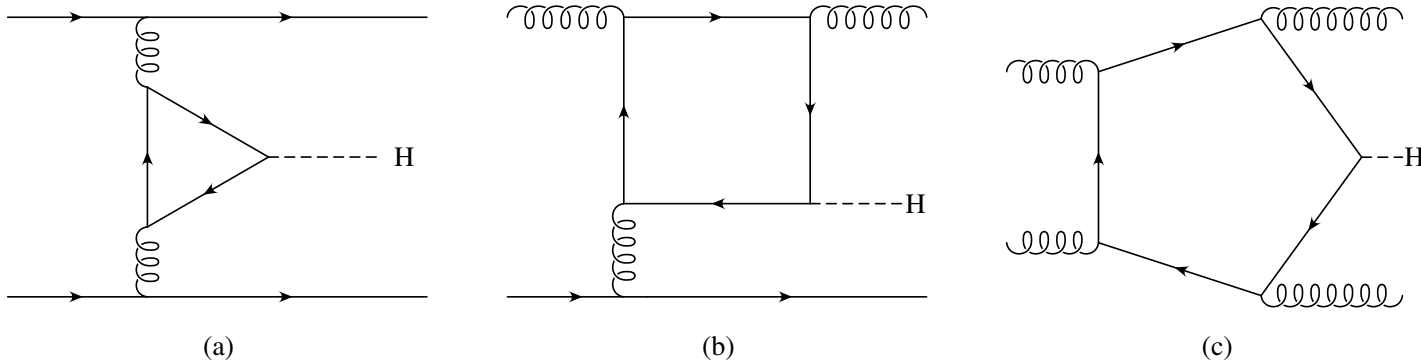
Ok, WBF turns out to be fantastic. How well do we understand it?

Open issues:

1. Minijet veto (QCD radiation effects due to color flow) at primitive stage – but measureable in data (cf. WBF Zjj).
 2. Better understanding of $t\bar{t}$ +jets:
off-shell effects, normalization and shape changes @ NLO.
 3. Contamination from GF signal + jets: $gg \rightarrow Hgg$. Partially understood.
 4. Nitty-gritty experimental issues, e.g. tagging forward jets at high lumi w/ underlying event, min. bias, etc.
- ... ?

$gg \rightarrow Hgg$ “contamination” to WBF Hjj signal

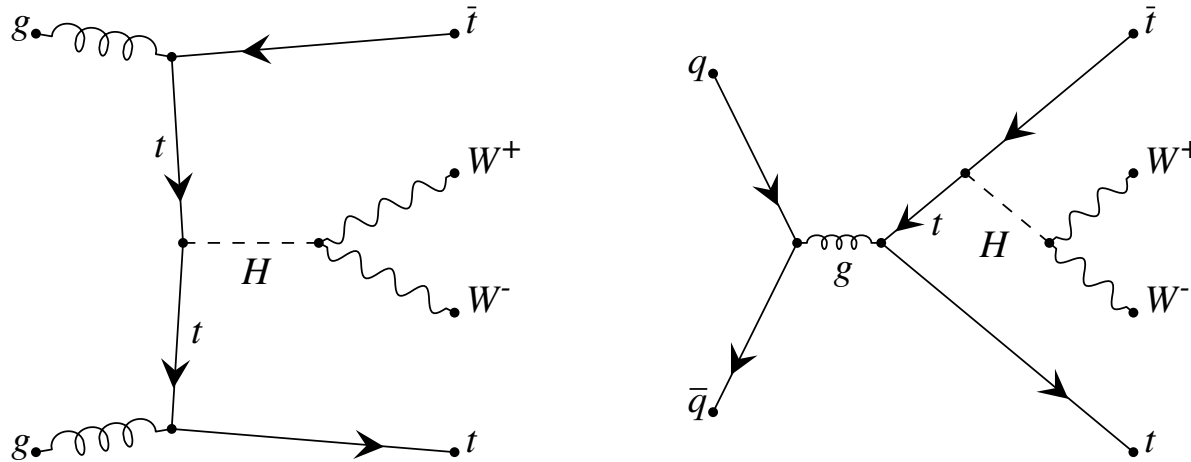
QCD can also give a central Higgs plus forward/backward jets:



▷ +1/3 rate ↑ w/ WBF cuts @ low M_H ! (no MJV) but different ϕ_{jj}

► rate uncertain to more than a factor 2

Big surprise in 2002: $t\bar{t}H, H \rightarrow W^+W^-$ is viable!



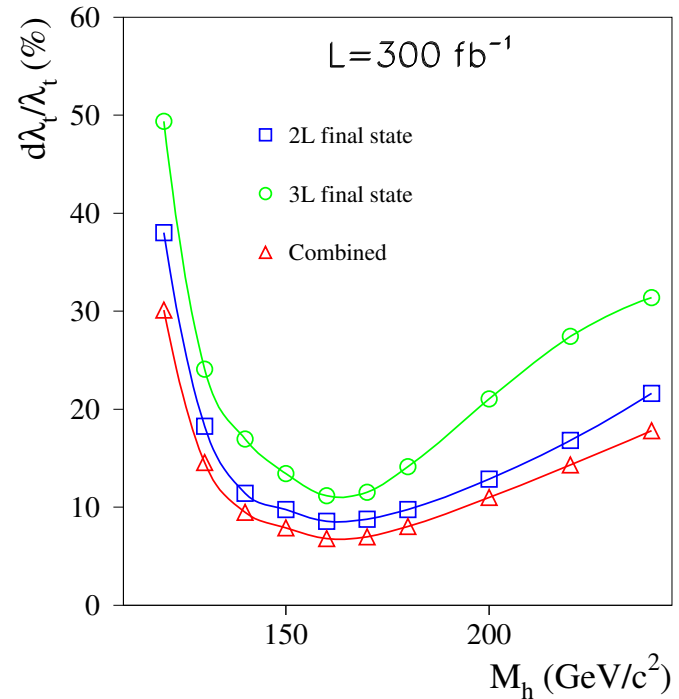
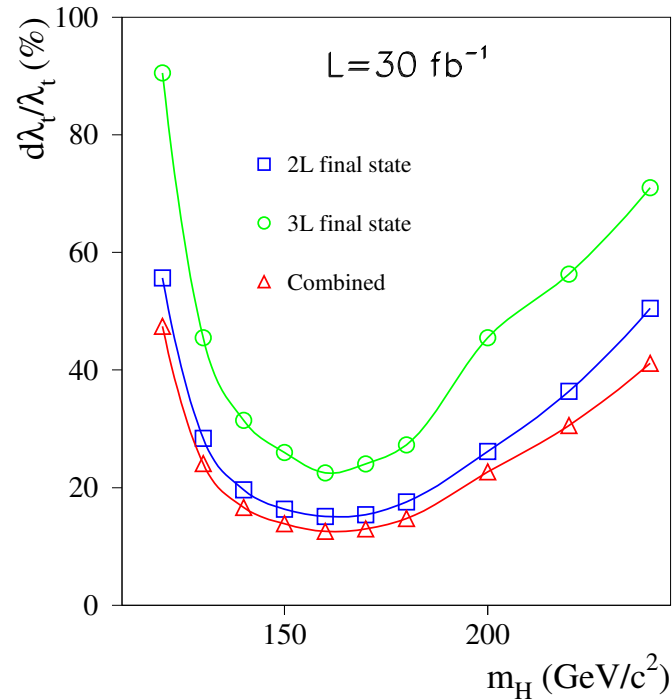
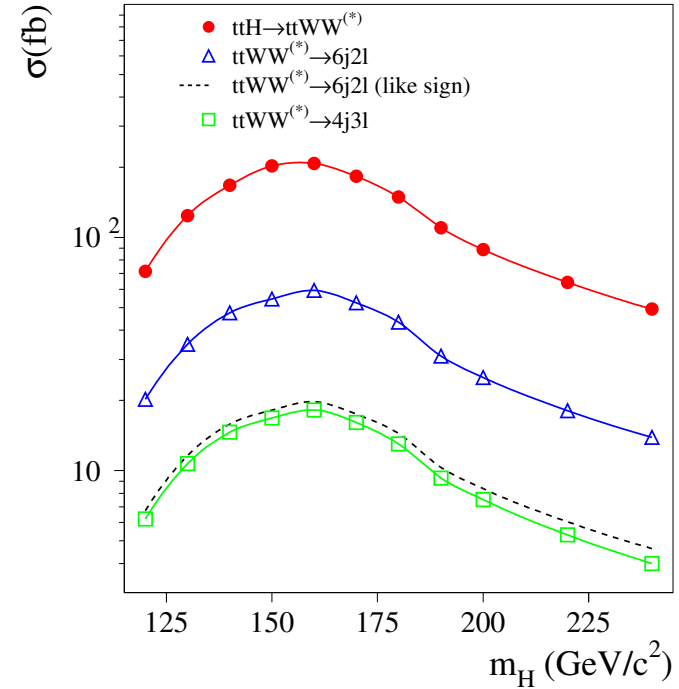
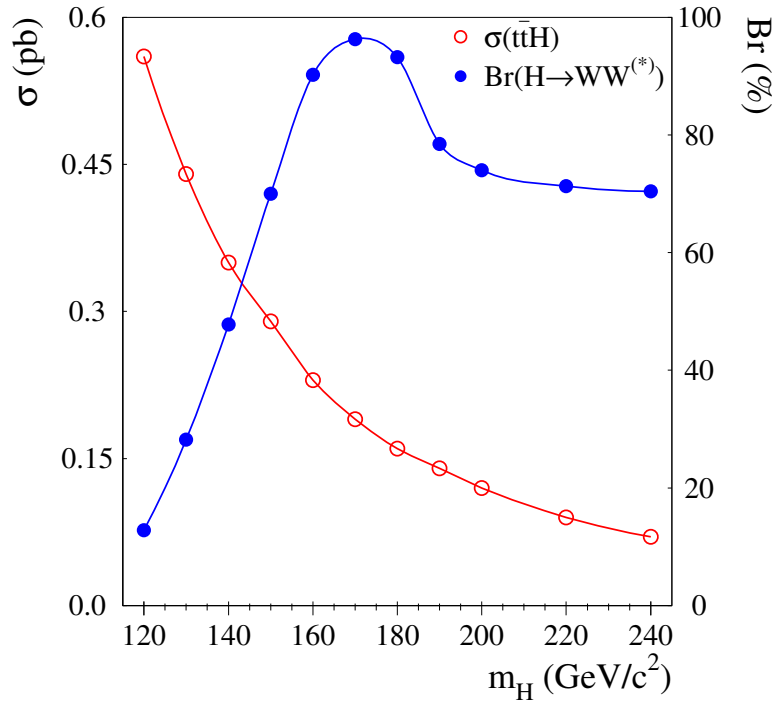
- very complicated final state: $4Wb\bar{b} \rightarrow$ multiple leptons
- best channels: same-sign dilepton, trilepton
- LOTS of nasty, never-before-calculated backgrounds:

$$t\bar{t}Z/\gamma^*(jj), t\bar{t}Wjj, t\bar{t}WW, t\bar{t}t\bar{t}$$

\rightarrow lots of diagrams, large QCD uncertainties (espec. on $t\bar{t}Vjj$)

► if $HW W$ coupling known, provides only directly Y_t measurement

ATLAS: $t\bar{t}H, H \rightarrow W^+W^-$ works over large M_H range: $\sigma \cdot \text{BR} \sim \text{constant}$:



Other misc. SM channels ATLAS & CMS are working on:

- $gg \rightarrow H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$ - the “golden channel” (excellent δm)
- $t\bar{t}H, H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$
- $gg \rightarrow H \rightarrow W^+W^- \rightarrow \ell\nu jj$ (higher mass)
- $gg \rightarrow H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow \ell^+\ell^- jj$ (higher mass)
- WBF $H \rightarrow W^+W^- \rightarrow \ell\nu jj$ (higher mass)
- WBF $H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow \ell^+\ell^- jj, \ell^+\ell^- b\bar{b}$
- WBF $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$
- WBF $H \rightarrow \tau^+\tau^- \rightarrow h_1 h_1 jj$ (all-hadronic; new trigger)
- ...

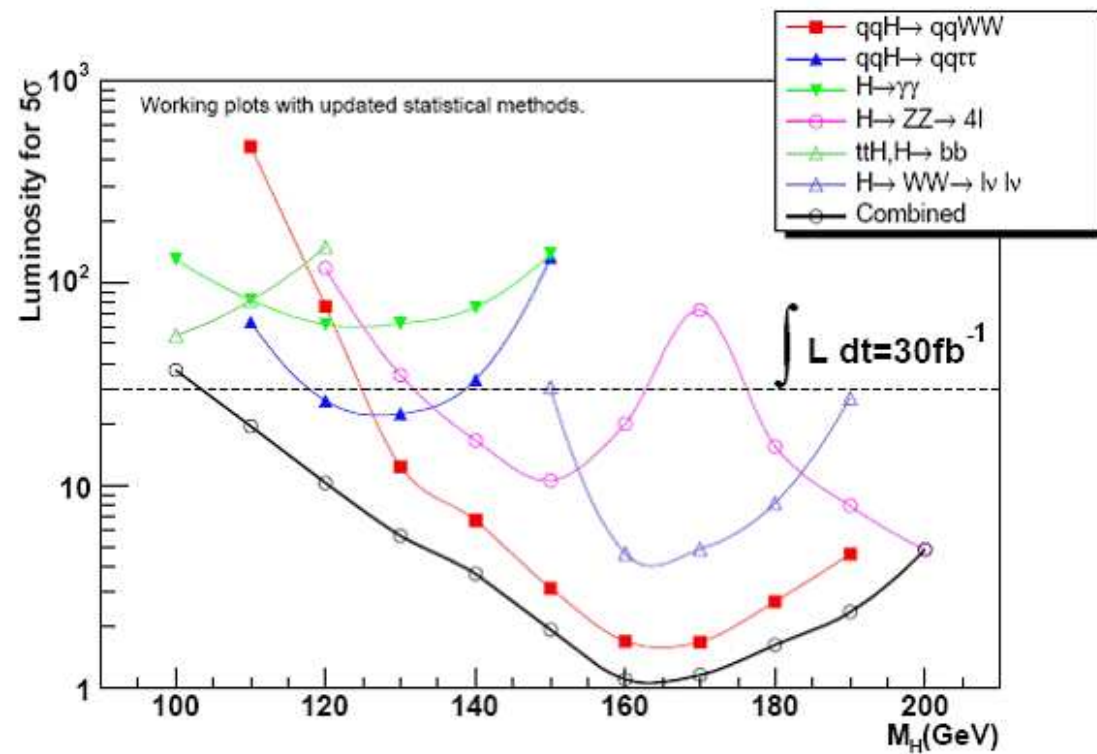
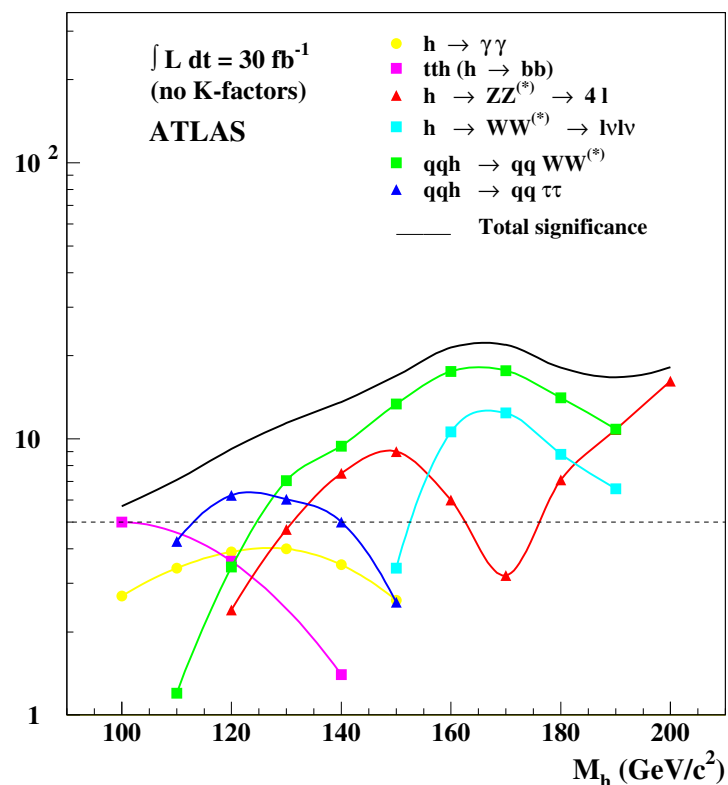
Point: maximize data sample in multiple channels

→ allows for more Higgs measurements

...speaking of which...

LHC (ATLAS) SM Higgs discovery summary

Signal significance



- WBF channels most important for discovery (and still not optimal)
 - bad: does not include tagging jet degradation at high lumi
 - good: does not include advances in $H \rightarrow \tau^+ \tau^-$
 - good: does not include minijet veto at all
 - good: does not include additional W, Z, τ decay channels
- entire mass range covered by multiple channels
- for most range, data contain discovery before detectors understood

SUMMARY PART 1

- The Higgs can't be produced directly, since it couples \propto mass; must be produced in association with or by something massive (W, Z, t, \dots).
- Higgs partial decay widths to fermions grow like M_H ; to gauge bosons grow as M_H^3 , so these dominate at large M_H .
- LEP didn't find the SM Higgs, Tev2 has a very slim chance.
- The premier production channel at LHC is WBF, due to its very good S/B ratio (generally $\gg 1/1$).
- The worst Higgs backgrounds come from QCD.
Reality check: shape uncertainties can destroy good ideas.
- LHC can discover a SM Higgs of any mass within a few years.
(We did not discuss heavy Higgs searches, which are a different beast.)
- Clever Higgs-hunting requires careful thought about kinematics.